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830 BROADWAY, N. Y. CITY.

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 16.

APRIL, 1891.

NO. 4.

C: A. CUTTER, PAUL L. FORD, *Editors.*

IN regard to the extract from the Boston *Herald* on the choice of a librarian for the Boston Public Library, which we print elsewhere, we will only say now, that there are serious difficulties, whether a trained librarian or an unskilled scholar is selected. It would seem that to adapt the library to its new surroundings in the Copley Square building would require the whole force of an experienced man fully acquainted with all the details and all the possibilities of his craft, and that a man who has to direct this adaptation and at the same time to learn his profession will have a very hard time. On the other hand, with a board of trustees who appear, judging from their course with regard to the plan of the new building and from other indications, to agree with their late chief's opinion that "all librarians are cranks," and with a code of rules which takes away all real power from the official who should be the executive head of the establishment, the best trained librarian could do little more good than the most ignorant member of any other profession. Indeed we have heard it said by persons outside of our profession that they should not suppose that any self-respecting librarian would accept the position.

WHILE there has been a great deal of comment in Boston upon the looseness of financial methods in the construction of the new Public Library building, very little has been said as to its merits as a working library. We have hitherto refrained from touching upon this subject; but it seems wrong to allow the discussion to go on before the public without a definite expression of opinion. We will therefore say that (so far as we hear) those librarians who have given the most thought to library plans believe unanimously that the new building of the Boston Public Library is far from representing the best ideas of modern library science; that in some respects it is very faulty; and that its chief value as an example for future building will lie in the expedients the architects may devise to overcome the difficulties they have themselves needlessly created.

It may throw some light on this state of affairs to record the opinions of librarians (also unanimous, so far as we can learn) that the Boston Public Library in its methods and results is not holding its former position as the leading library in the United States; that it is necessary to look elsewhere for the best examples of development in usefulness; that it is especially lacking in that work among the industrial classes and in schools which is so marked a feature of recent library growth; and that the management seems to be intentionally blind to the experience and progress of other libraries.

THE article which we copied in our March number from the *Hebrew journal*, advocating the discontinuance of the subsidy now paid by the city to free circulating libraries and the establishment of a free library in each grammar school, with an allowance of \$1000 a year, proposes a plan which is a little in the line of the Boston home libraries, though it lacks the feature which gives the Boston plan its chief excellence. Far be it from us to object to grammar-school libraries, but how much good they would do would depend in great measure on their management. They would not be an automatic machine. If a really competent man were placed in charge of the whole work something might be accomplished. If the head were wanting in judgment and energy the money would be wasted, and the whole scheme would come to naught, as the district-school libraries did in the last generation. Let New York establish such libraries, if she likes, in addition to giving her assistance to the great free circulating libraries. She can afford to do both. But to withdraw her aid from the agencies for circulating good books already established would be a piece of most expensive economy. Those libraries have already large stocks of books, have able librarians, have a force to run them; all of which costs the city nothing. To abandon the free use of this in order to set up such meagre little libraries as could be made and administered for \$1000 a year each, is like the policy of founding little one-horse colleges all over the country instead of fostering our great universities. If it be pleaded that books ought to be brought

close to the dwellings of the people, which is very true, let the New York Free Circulating Library be aided in establishing numerous branches. That library has an able head, a corps of competent catalogers, a fund of experience, and a stock of books, meagre. It is true in proportion to its needs, but opulent in comparison with what could be bought for some time with whatever of the \$1000 a school could save from expenses of running. We have said that the *Hebrew journal's* plan lacked the best feature of the new Boston movement—that is, the personal element. In having few books, interchanging its books, in having libraries in many places, it is similar; but it lacks the immense advantage of intelligent, sympathetic intercourse; it wants the missionary feature, the characteristic part of the Boston plan; and therefore it cannot be defended on the same lines. One argument used by the *Hebrew journal* strikes us as singularly weak—that the libraries now aided by the city are not under the control of the city. Good heavens! is it possible that any person living in New York, with his eyes open, desires to put libraries under municipal control?

### Communications.

#### ORDER POCKETS.

I HAVE had in use for a year or so a device which I can recommend to libraries which have adopted the Boston Athenæum charging system. It is a manilla paper pocket 5.4 cm. wide and 12.5 cm. long. That is wide enough to hold our charging cards, not too wide to go into the charging boxes, and just long enough not to hide on the manilla the two lines bearing the class mark and author of the work charged. This pocket serves to hold the charging card and any written order which has been sent for the book, so that if any borrower denies that his messenger had authority to ask for the book he is confronted with his own signed note. Memories fade, but, *littera scripta manet*. C: A. CUTLER.

#### CATALOGUE CARDS ON TYPEWRITERS.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY, TOPEKA, KAN.

I THINK I to-day made a discovery. I have for some time been casting about for a typewriter that would hold and print library cards.

The American Library Association, I believe, has not found one and, I think, objects to the typewriter for that purpose.\* It seems to me, however, that by using an indelible ribbon the impression would be as durable as with ink, and it would certainly be plainer; more could be put upon a card, and all the cards would be uniform in appearance. We to-day experimented with a Remington machine, as follows: We took off the roller and placed upon it one of Faber's rubber

bands, No. 0000  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch, and slid it forward so as to hold the right end of the card when in place in the machine. Putting the roller in place and inserting a card, we found it to be held nicely in place, and that it printed clearly and evenly to a line space from the bottom of the card. When it is necessary to use the large-sized paper, the band can be moved back to the right end of the roller, and it is not in the way, and the machine can be used as before. And when we return to the cards again, we have only to slide the band back to place according to length of card. "Eureka." H. J. DENNIS.

[\* This is an error. The American Library Association has never expressed any opinion on the subject. Many of its members use typewriters for cards, usually the Hammond. The Public Library of New Bedford has been very successful with the calligraph. — Eds. L. J.]

#### THE USE OF "IMPRINT."

SOME persons have criticised our use of the term "imprint" to cover several facts besides place, date, and publisher (see Library School Rules, 4a). I am delighted to find that you use it in the same broad sense (see Cutter's Rules, p. 13, and §§ 178 and 207). Your definition is a little ambiguous, but in §§ 178 and 207 you seem to include all that we do, except editions.

As I say, I am pleased that you have done this; but how do you defend this use, except on the score of convenience? The "Century Dictionary" sticks to the derivation meaning of the word.

M. S. CUTLER.

In re "imprint" the "Century Dictionary" is perfectly right, so far as it goes. It gives (1) the general sense of the word, and (2) one technical sense, namely, that used by the publisher, printer, and bibliographer. It does not give a second technical sense in which the word is used by catalogers. I hold that any art has the right to extend the sense of common words so as to cover related ideas which it needs to express. It must do this unless it will coin new words, which is generally to be avoided. Now catalogers need a word to signify all that part of the cataloging record which pertains to the printing of the volume. They have just as much right to use "imprint" for this idea as the bibliographers had to use imprint to signify that part of the title-page which pertains to the printing of the volume. Both of these uses are aside from the original use of the word. Catalogers have used their right, and the dictionaries ought to recognize the word.

I prefer not to include "edition" among the imprint items, because, though it is in part a matter of printing, it still more belongs to the preparation of the volume. Sometimes a new edition is the result of the work of the author, in amending and enlarging; sometimes merely of the publisher and printer; and sometimes there is nothing new about the "edition" but the title-page. The statement of edition does not belong exclusively either to title or to imprint. I prefer therefore to put it between the two. All the rest of the title I make one sentence (§ 207); but the record of the edition is a new sentence. C: A. CUTLER.

## COLLECTION AND REGISTRATION OF FINES. — No. I.\*

## DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

By the charging system in use in this library the applicant for a book makes his application upon a slip provided for the purpose. These slips, in the handwriting of the book applicant, are filed in chronological and in alphabetical order at the return desk. When a book is returned against which a fine is chargeable a memorandum of the amount of the fine is made on the upper left-hand corner of the face of the slip. If the fine is paid the slip is deposited in the cash drawer with the money. The slip having the date upon which the book was originally drawn stamped thereon shows for itself whether the proper amount of fine has been collected. These slips are counted, together with the cash, after the library closes at night, and of course the two should agree. The aggregate amount of the fines of the day is entered upon a bank-book and the slips showing the details of the fines are fastened together with Novelty binding staple in such manner that they can be examined. The package is stamped with its proper date; those of the month are tied together and filed away for reference. The fines are turned over to the Treasurer at the close of each month, and his receipt is taken on the bank-book.

It sometimes happens that persons return books overdue, and for one cause or another are not prepared to pay the fine. The rules of the library allow credit for not more than two weeks on the whole or a part of the fine. If the card-holder does not wish to draw another book the card is retained at the library, and with the fine-slip attached to it is filed away in the fine-drawer, to await redemption. If the card-holder wishes to draw another book the card is punched under that date to warn the attendant when the book is returned that a fine is standing against it and the slip on which the fine is charged is attached to the slip on which the book is drawn and turns up when that book is returned.

No further credit is allowed, and if the fine is not paid, then the card is taken up, the fine-slip is attached to it, and the whole is filed away for redemption.

If a portion of the fine is paid a memorandum showing the amount paid is deposited with the cash, and the original slip showing the credit and balance due is treated as before described.

\* Several contributions on this subject are reserved for the next number, when the symposium will be continued. We trust that any librarians who have not already contributed will do so for that issue. — EDS. L. J.

No book entries are made other than the entry of the total receipts of each day in the bank-book, as before stated. The slips upon which fines are paid from day to day are accessible whenever wanted. The amount of fines collected during the last year averaged about \$2.46 for each working day, paid by 47 different persons, or about 5¼ cents for each person. The collection of such a trifling sum from so many different persons does not justify any elaborate system of individual accounts or double-entry bookkeeping. The main thing is to see to it that the fines are impartially collected and faithfully reported. To this end the matter is, as far as practicable, placed in the hands of one assistant, who turns over cash-box and slips every morning to the librarian for verification. No system can be devised which will not, in the last analysis, depend on the honesty of the individual charged with its enforcement.

The system above described appears to me to answer every purpose of simplicity and efficiency, and in the many years of its use I believe the library has not been cheated out of a penny.

H. M. UTLEY.

## NEWARK (N. J.) FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

"WHY, I thought this was a free library! I didn't know I would have to pay for my book," was the remark overheard one day at a busy loan-desk. Nevertheless, fines are as necessary to bring some of the books back again as the fact that they are free is necessary to send them out.

The following Article, from the Regulations of the Free Public Library of Newark, N. J., explains our rules in regard to fines:

A fine of two (2) cents a day shall be imposed if a book is kept overtime, and at the expiration of three weeks (if the book is not returned) a messenger will be sent for the book, and shall have authority to collect the fine incurred, and an additional fee of twenty (20) cents for such messenger service. No book will be delivered to the person incurring the fine until it is paid.

NOTE.—The day on which a book is taken out is not counted in computing the time under the rules, during which a book may be detained; but Sundays, holidays, and other days on which the library may be closed, are always counted, except when such day happens to be the one on which the count ends, and then the count shall end at the close of the first day thereafter on which the library may be open. If the library should be closed after a book becomes overdue, all the days during which the library remains closed will be counted in computing the fine. Delinquents will be notified by postal card on the first day after their delinquency has occurred, but the library is not responsible for failure of notice to reach the person.

The fines are collected at the loan-desk as the books are returned, and a hurried memorandum is made at the time of the amount received. At the close of the day the account is balanced, and later the entries are made in the cash-book. At



the end of the month the entries in the cash-book are summarized; thus we are enabled to show exactly how much has been collected from fines and other sources during the month.

Each morning an assistant carefully looks up all books overdue, and sends postal-card notices to the delinquents, sending some days as many as sixty, again as few as six—averaging between thirty and forty each day.

At the time the postal is written, a "fine-slip" is filled out, with the facts in condensed form, and this is filed for future reference. From this sam-

[FORM F.]

Card No. 123201

Book 743 B 41

**FINE.**

From 10 Jan. 91

To 14 "

8 Cts.

**NOTICE SENT.**

No. 1 Jan. 14 8 Cts.

Sent for " 20 20 "

8 days 12 "

Total 40 Cts.

Paid F. B. Knott

ple we see that the reader, whose number is 123,201, took out the book numbered 743 B41 and that there is a fine of 8 cents from the 10J91, when the book was due, to the 14J91, when the postal was written. Then the "fine-slips" are filed for reference in case of any future misunderstanding, or if the person still fails to return the book.

The postal usually serves its purpose, and most of the books are returned very soon; but after waiting seven days, if all are not in, the "fine-slips" for the few remaining are taken out and filled in with the extra fine, and the 20 cents additional for messenger service. The name of the reader and the address are then written on the

back of the slip. These are given to the regular messenger, and he goes for the books they represent and brings back the books, slips, cards and fines—if he can get them—to the library. The "fine-slips" are filed away once more in their places and left at rest. They not only give the history of the fines at the library, but show the messenger the facts of the case in a systematic form when he goes for the book; and they also give an official appearance to the matter which oftentimes is a great help.

If any one refuses to pay the fine incurred, the privileges of the library are denied to him until he decides to abide by the rules.

(Miss) C. M. UNDERHILL.

P.S.—If a book is returned without card, the fact is noted on the application and in the record-book; so that it is almost impossible for a person to escape the fine, even though he try to get a new application.

F. P. H.

**NEW YORK APPRENTICES' LIBRARY.**

OUR arrangements for collecting and recording fines we regard as one of the strongest features of our charging system. Our method is as follows: Books are allowed to be kept two weeks. We allow one week's grace before we send for the book, on which there will be seven cents due for the first week over time. On and after the second week the fine is doubled; that is, two cents a day is charged. Every book issued has a slip pasted on the fly-leaf, on which is stamped the date of issue. As the same date is stamped on the issue card, which is filed in the order of dates in the library, there is a double record of the date of issue of every book. The date in the book enables the reader to compute when its return is due and cuts off all dispute as to the validity of a fine. When a book is one week over due the arrangement by days enables us easily to send notices to the readers. A separate record is kept of such notices, in a book prepared for that purpose, in which all returns, payments of fines and fines due, are noted as they occur, so that we have an absolute check, enabling us to tell exactly how each account stands at any time. Books over time less than a week are fined one cent per day. Every issue card has two columns, one for fines paid and the other for fines due. When a fine is paid or due it is noted in its respective column; those paid being placed in the cash drawer as a voucher and check. These are entered in detail in a book provided for that purpose, and the cash must balance with the amounts recorded on the cards. If there is a shortage the clerk in charge of the cash must

make up the difference. We have thus a check on all fines paid. We obtain a similar check on fines unpaid by going over the cards every morning on which no fines have been paid, noting in

its proper column all fines the clerks have neglected to charge. We are thus certain that *all* fines due will be properly charged against the reader.

JACOB SCHWARTZ.

#### DUTIES OF A LIBRARY TO ITS STAFF.\*

BY MISS MARY IMOGEN CRANDALL.

OUR subject has at least the merit of being unhackneyed. While much has been written and yet more has been said on the subject of a librarian's duty to the public, and to his library, Poole's Index and my memory furnish not a single instance of any allusion to the duties of a library to its staff. So if for once librarians should meet to discuss what is justly due from others to their profession, the rarity of the proceeding should atone for such unwonted egotism.

While in almost every other line of work the tendency of the time seems to lie toward an effort to produce easier conditions of work for the laborer, as in the case of shorter hours and more frequent holidays for the "laboring man," so-called, the tendency in the library world, while it has been toward improvement both in the quality and quantity of librarians, has also been toward increase in all the requirements of the position. One of these requirements, and an excellent one, has been a demand for longer hours of opening for libraries. In a great many instances, the first and the most eager demand for the longer hours has come from the librarians, and in many instances the longer hours of opening have necessitated the lengthening of the hours of labor for the staff. And there never seems to be any protest, because this is the case. Library piety, if one may use the phrase as it finds expression in the Association meetings, has seemed to require that the librarian shall cheerfully lay what the majority of other workers regard as but their legal and human rights — immunity from labor on legal holidays and Sundays — on the altar of the library he serves; that he must do this with an eager alacrity, whether it is required of him or not, or he is unworthy of his position and his profession. If it is necessary for him to work 14 hours a day in order to have his library open from 8 till 10, he should do it; and if seven days a week, that his library may be open on Sundays, he should insist on having that privilege from his Board of Trustees. Do I misstate or overstate the case? Let me read you from the Proceedings at the St. Louis Conference an example of the exhortations to self-sacrifice to

which I refer, and the tone of which, as it seems to me, appears to charge with flagrant impiety, as regards library work, the person who when he enters this profession expects to retain the ordinary right of every workman and business man, that he shall not have to meet unreasonable requirements, or do more work than human nature can safely endure: "Let us first do what ought to be done, and then ask and get the help we need to do it, but do it even if it requires extra hours and added labor. Some ask, Why do you do what you are not paid for, and what is not really demanded of you? A man who sets up such a standard seems to me a selfish shirk. Let us do the work first and then ask for support from the public after it sees our good works."

I take pride in being even a heretodox member of a body of workers actuated by such altruistic motives. It is true, as one knowing well the library world, and yet not a librarian, has recently said, "The typical librarian of our generation is a more active, constant, unselfish, conscientious enthusiastic worker than his contemporaries of any of the learned professions, the clergy not excepted. He thinks, talks, acts, dreams, lives library work. He gives to the public — from pure public spirit and love of his calling — double and treble the work he is paid for."

It is a generous characterization, a spur to increased effort on the part of all library-workers, and I am not willing to be understood as wishing any one of them to be less than worthy of such praise.

But when the librarian in the abandon of his self-sacrifice forgets that he has any rights as a human being which even these pressing demands of his beloved work are bound to respect, and when in his zeal and public spirit he forgets that he cannot make self-sacrifice obligatory on his assistants, he injures the library cause which he would advance.

The best interests of the library require that the librarian shall not become a mere plodding machine; yet this he will become — still more easily *she* will become, if in this self-forgetful devotion to the direct ends of the work in hand, it is forgotten that the workman is an important factor in the product to be obtained, and that if

\* Portions of a paper read before the New York Library Club, March 12.

the value of this factor is lessened, the final result will be very greatly lessened.

This is the reason why I think it is time for the libraries to recognize for their own sake, and the sake of the ends they are striving to attain for humanity, that the self-immolation movement on the part of the library profession has gone far enough. Granting that the attitude of the library to the librarians can only be governed by interest, an "enlightened self-interest" should impel each library, when it has first obtained the best staff possible, next to *keep* it the best possible. Keeping it the best possible involves the discharge of those duties whose nature we have met to consider.

It would be useless, it would be absurd to attempt to formulate specific rules which should govern the relations of library and staff in all cases; the conditions and character of the work discharged are so various that what applies specifically to one library will not apply to its neighbor. Then back of this word "library," which for the sake of brevity and convenience we consider to-day as having a duty to discharge, there is some personality which will be different in each case. In some libraries, as regards all other members of the staff, the librarian is this personality. We do not need to linger long over what concerns such cases. If the librarian has any right to occupy the position he holds, he knows, independently of the enlightening efforts of the Club, that he owes his fellow laborers the debt that every honorable and upright man and woman know they owe their fellow men and women—fair, honest, considerate and kindly treatment. Because this man is manager of a library he does not feel himself discharged from a regard for the welfare of his subordinates any more readily than he would absolve from such regard the manager of a shop, a factory or a business office. The duties are the same in kind, but the more familiar association, and probable equality of social position in the library often make the relationship subsisting between the more and the less experienced members something like that of teacher and pupil than that of employer and clerk. I think librarians are inclined to live up to their duty in this as well as in other respects. Those of us who are or have been librarians will confess that one of the pleasantest features of this "being a librarian" is in the friendly guardianship which we may sometimes exercise over other minds and lives, even while we recognize it as one of our most serious responsibilities.

But while the librarian may have a friendly eye for the interests of the staff he is not the library, and it is the duties of the latter of which we are speaking. Sometimes a board of trustees, or some active officer of the board is the library's animating spirit, the keeper of its conscience, or it is the great public whose voice speaks loudest, or the municipal powers who direct its action, or again it may be the creature of traditions and precedents, and can only act in the line of its established policy. Such a conscience is a much more difficult thing to awaken than the tender and active one of our typical librarian. It is usually very much alive to the duties of the staff to itself, and usually, too, sees clearly its own duty to the public, but is inclined to be oblivious as regards anything due the servants of the public. They are, in the phrase of a newspaper which perfectly voices the spirit of which I speak, "the paid help from whom the suffering paying public has a right to expect some work."

But what work is it that the suffering paying public demands? It is a work which constantly requires a well-stored mind, general culture, as well as special training, infinite patience, unflinching courtesy; all these must be preserved in the midst of, it may be, a round of routine and mechanical work, in the midst of bustle and hurry, and constant contact with all sorts and conditions of men, to not a few of whom, it may be, culture, patience, and courtesy seem alike unknown. This "paid help of the suffering public" knows that to serve the public as it should be served, he must be human, accessible, alert, ready, fresh, winning in manner and personality—a human being with symmetrically developed and cultivated faculties, intellectual and social; and he knows, too, if he is to be anything of this—and not merely an animated book-mill warranted to grind out so many volumes per day, he cannot be in contact with the suffering public every waking hour; he must have some opportunity for intellectual growth, for mental and physical recreation. He knows that if the experience he has acquired of men and books is to be a cumulative force, benefiting this public to whom it is of considerable value, it cannot afford to let him work in impure air or with insufficient light, any more than it can afford to allow his knowledge of the intellectual life of his own day to degenerate into a mere knowledge of bindings and titles. It is recognized now that the clergyman must be a constant and industrious student, if he is to be a useful man in his calling, but the "public" would



seem to cherish the idea that the only mental ailment required by the librarian, the president of a "people's university," is the order-book, the accession-book, and the card catalogue.

The introductory paper may shed but a nebulous light, if any, on the topic for discussion; what may be the specific duties in specific instances I leave to you to determine; but the great duty of the government of a library is to make the most of the capacities of those persons through whom the library does its work; and in no way can this be better accomplished than in a regard for physical health and intellectual growth, and in the

shedding abroad of that atmosphere of friendly appreciation and co-operation which is the sunshine in which all human plants best thrive and blossom.

The object in thus urging wider opportunities and brighter conditions for librarians is not self-seeking or captious criticism; it is the expression of a sincere desire that the ruling spirit of the library world shall be human, kindly and broad-minded; that it shall not be dominated by the self-seeking of the shops, but shall fitly express the liberal and enlightening tendencies of institutions of learning.

### CATALOGUING OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

BY W. A. MERRILL, LIBRARIAN MIAMI UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

THE public document collection of Miami University is quite large, numbering over 5000 volumes. They are kept by themselves in a document-room and catalogued in both the authors and subject catalogues on salmon-colored cards, the ordinary books being catalogued on white cards. The color is distinctive both in natural and artificial light.

As is well known, the documents supplied to depositories bear double titles, the first being the serial number of house-executive, senate-journal, etc.; and the second, in most cases, describing the subject of the work, *e.g.*, House Reports Nos. 1500-1659; Geological Survey, etc. Again these documents are sent in a varying order, some of them ten years later than others; hence some relative system of classification is desirable. I have selected 328 in the Dewey system as the class number of these depository-documents. I then form a numerator of a fraction, by which a book is to be known, by adding as a decimal to 328 the number of the Congress, then the number of the session, and finally an arbitrary number indicating the classification adopted by the government, *viz.*, 0, Senate Journal; 2, Senate Executive; 3, Senate Miscellaneous; 4, Senate Reports; 5, House Journal; 6, House Executive; 7, House Miscellaneous; 8, House Reports. The figures 1 and 9 are left for extraordinary use, *e.g.*, the Smithsonian Report was formerly called a House document only, and during that period it took the figure 9.

Suppose we have House Exec. 49th Cong., 2d Sess., the numerator will be 328.4926; the denominator will be the volume of the document printed on the label. If it should be Vol. 22, the

entire fraction would be 328.4926; in practice I disregard the 328 and write  $\frac{4926}{22}$ , which is self-interpreting: 49 Cong., 2d Sess., House Exec., Vol. 22, and I have a convenient fraction for cross-references. If vol. 23 comes some years after vol. 22, there is room for it on the shelf, and in the system. In the subject catalogue I write the sub-title printed on the book, *e.g.*, Coast Survey, 1886. In the authors' catalogue the book is indicated by the fraction. I find the following advantages: the documents are kept together by Congresses, sessions, and classes, whenever and however irregularly they may arrive; the notation is self-interpreting and saves much writing in all the catalogues, particularly in the shelf list; the fraction is convenient for cross-reference, and in both the author and subject catalogues are easily used. The principal objection is the necessity of cross-referencing, but I do not see how that can be avoided as long as the documents are bound up as they are. By this method the *indigesta moles* published by the government as a catalogue in 1884 can also be used, as well as Mr. Hickcox's lists.

The cloth-bound documents are numbered like ordinary books, but being in the document-room are catalogued on the colored cards. The date is added as a sub-number, *e.g.*,  $\frac{526}{1-86}$ , is U.S. Coast Survey, 1886, if we also have it in cloth. A cross-reference card under 526 to  $\frac{526}{22}$  shows that we have another copy in sheep. State documents are treated in the same way, whether bound in sheep as part of a set, or in cloth as separate reports.

ADDRESS AT THE DEDICATION OF THE  
LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF  
PENNSYLVANIA.\*

BY TALCOTT WILLIAMS.

FOR the first and for the last time, the voices of men are heard in this place, dedicated to the more eloquent silence of books. Nowhere is man more and men less than in the library. In the presence of books individual learning pales. The scholar dies; the library lives. Yet only in part. In this bookish age, we fondly impute immortality to books. Nothing could be more false. Few books have the power of an endless life. Against these books of power stand a great multitude of books of use, which perish with the using. The vast mass of books, like the thoughts in our daily lives, sink into the background of the recollection of the race and furnish the soil from which fresh growths spring. Few there are who have written books of power. Not a score in all. Poets for the most part. High priests forever after the order of humanity, whose flaming message burns from age to age in the great tree of human existence, consuming and unconsumed. These books of power, which live that humanity may not die, and books of use, which die that other books may live, divide literature between them. They constitute the warp and woof out of which the university weaves the higher education. In its last analysis a liberal training is the mastery of books of use and a glad yielding to the mastery of books of power.

Controversy over the classics, wrangling over Greek, vain jangling over required and elective courses—these are details. Direct contact between the growing minds of each generation and the great minds of the race—this is essential. We smile at the space given Confucius in Chinese education; the Koran in Mohammedan schools; but this is only a perversion of the sound instinct which everywhere puts the young to school to the teachers of the race. Unless your education does this, it stands where the electric telegraph did before its wires were grounded—its batteries and instruments, its poles and wires useless until they were in direct contact with the elemental source of electric energy in the earth itself. So-called and mis-called practical systems of education, *realschulen*, which omit these eternal realities of the race, find when they have stuffed their pupils with the facts of the day that they are still insulated from the thinkers of all time. Fortunately for us and for our education, these books of power exist in more than one language and are accessible through more than one channel of learning. Thanks to our matchless translation of the Bible, one incomparable group of books of power is taught in every Sunday-school, though I doubt if this will always be held a sufficient reason for neglecting their study in every university. Greek holds another group. But it is a pitiful pedant's plea to urge their study because Greek is difficult. It is not because Greek is Greek, but because Homer is Homer that Chapman "spoke out loud and bold" of the solitary text-book

which has held its own for 2500 years, and links, as may it forever link, this university with the schools of Athens.

"Yet still your Homer, living, lasting, reigning,  
And proves how truth builds in poets feigning."

It is because these books of power hold the truth that makes men free, working thoughts that perish never, that they live when the tongues in which they speak are dead. Books of power which transmit the spiritual life of the race keep the self-same spirit through all the transmigrations of speech. The scriptures of the race, no less than the scriptures of religion, enjoy a pentecostal gift of tongues, and are heard by every man in his own language. Where such books are few in number, which a shelf or two will hold, there is a liberal education, and no elective course which permits their exclusion offers intellectual salvation. Some such books every race has found in its own literature as it reached the full stature of universal humanity, as our own English-speaking race, well-nigh within this generation, has discovered in adding Shakespeare to our general schooling. By the production of such books of power nations are justly measured. This is the wisdom which keepeth a city from destruction. The ship of state, however weighted with worldly wealth, moves a trackless keel through the waters of history unless some poet wings its course with "the proud, full sail of his great verse." We have all heard to-day from one whose lifelong devotion to one such book of power has raised him to the foremost rank of scholarship:

"Weave a circle round him thrice  
And close your eyes with holy dread,  
For he on honey-dew hath fed,  
And drunk the milk of Paradise."

The study of such books is possible without any aid or apparatus whatever; so near is the diviner life of letters to every one of us. But the first office which a library discharges in a university is in providing the limitless and manifold interpretation which the ages have builded about these great books of power. Better than all other books as are books of power when read without study, they are infinitely bettered by all study. The literature of interpretation is only second in value to the literature of inspiration. The study even of books of power tends to become scholastic, narrow, provincial, letterwise, and spiritually dead, unless it is quickened and corrected by the fruits of the entire field of critical science. For lack of this more than one sacred book has met a fate which makes one feel, as well kill a book as give it a good name. Even in the teaching of books of power—which of all teaching needs but a soul and the book to awake eternity—the scholar is saved from himself by the library. He learns that with all the inspired prophets of the race no scripture is of private interpretation, that only time unlocks the weaving of these deeper oracles of humanity, because they spake not of themselves, but for the spirit of man. Nor need we fear that they will be smothered by their interpretation. The mountains bear easily the weight of forests they uprear, and at the last and highest, no tree ascends above the snow-line of eternal thought.

\*Delivered February 7, 1891.

But such ascents are as little the normal work of the university as of the road-builder. Its course lies chiefly along the broad highways of learning. Not books of power, but books of use, which sum first general, and then special and professional knowledge, occupy the greater portion of its time, just as the most saintly of mortals devotes more of his days to earning his living than to saving his soul. If the study of books of power is rendered more valuable by a library, the adequate teaching of books of use without one is impossible. Every text-book is a compromise between what is known and what can be taught. Two classes, I know, the publishers and the public, cherish the belief that there are text-books which sum current knowledge on this subject and that; but there are none. Every text-book is out of date the day after it goes to the printer, and the day before it gave not what is known, but the view of what is known then in teaching vogue. It measures the advancing tides of learning by a gauge itself incessantly changing. We love to speak of authorities and standards. We delude ourselves. The whole field of letters and of learning is in a perpetual flux, whose only complete record is the library. We know that in science discovery succeeds discovery. There is nothing certain about a scientific book except that it will be wrong in five or ten years. Only now and then does some lawgiver in science, some Newton or Darwin, descend the mount of discovery, bearing eternal and lasting laws of nature, writ by Nature's God. But in literature we dream of permanent reputation. Here, too, "Every century gives the last the lie." All the lesser priests of letters stand at shrines like that of Nemi and the Golden Bough,

"Beneath Aricia's trees,  
Where the ghastly priest doeth reign,  
The priest who slew the slayer  
And shall himself be slain."

Every new book enters the arena about to die. The friendly verdict but deters fate; it does not avert it. The lesser criticism of letters must be done anew for every crop of readers, and in fifteen or twenty years most essays are left behind. The procession of novels passes almost as rapidly. Few are read for thirty years, no English novels have held a popular place for past half a century, and a decade before the centenary of *Waverley* it begins to be whispered that Scott is no longer read by the young. Every generation must have its own translations of the classics, or reprints of those which have been forgotten. Morals, philosophy, and religion must be rewritten for it. Even histories, which linger a little longer on the stage than all the rest, yield to inexorable change. It is barely a century since Gibbon launched his mighty fleet, freighted with the fall of empire. It has long ridden the seas, but I think we are all well aware that its masts are already low on the horizon. No one author, no one work, can longer satisfy the world for the story of ten centuries of the race. For most of us these changes do not exist. Unconsciously we go on down the stream with the favorites of our youth and forget that both are growing old together. If literature is to be taught as it is, and not as it seems, to take one pregnant illustration, true of all studies,

teacher and taught must have instant and vital access to that great body of books to which in every subject a text-book is but a rude and makeshift guide. The present can only be understood by the past, and both are needed to prophesy of the future. When this library has been enlarged to the utmost bounds of our anticipation, it will still have its limits to the specialists — joints in its armor of learning. Even at the British Museum I was told and discovered that no man is long at work without wanting some book with which it is unprovided.

But if teaching requires this great array, much more does the wider work of the college professor. To look upon him as set only to teach, to hear recitations, is as narrow and barren a view of his work as to think of the farmer as only occupied in feeding his calves. If a university is in the highest sense to be a teaching body, it must cultivate knowledge as well as pupils. Its professors must do more than harvest the learning and teach the discoveries of other discoverers. They must produce and discover. The spirit of genius bloweth where it listeth, but those books of use which play their part in giving each generation its critical standards, its histories, and the results of research are born only in full libraries. If a university is deficient in them, the lack is apt to be in that laboratory of learning, its library. Unless a university is producing these, it is teaching only its matriculates when it ought to be teaching the public.

Much may be done, much accomplished, in the university without the library. Professional schools may multiply and grow, for in these men of professional learning supply the lack of books. It is even possible to carry on much research and produce valuable results along any narrow rising line of discovery in some science, which, like the coral, has but its growing edge alive, and for the rest is dead and under water. But if a university is to fill the whole round and play its true part in society, it must enjoy, employ, and extend the organized memory of man as represented in a great library. As the chief value of this lies, not in any view of its mere bulk and size, but in its relation to the recollection of the race, so the work of the university pivots on its ability to make vital the study of books of power, without which all learning and letters and science are but a vain show. Better, a thousand times better, the solitary study which brings men face to face with the spirit of man in these great movements than any university study which dwarfs to routine or degrades to mere rote these great works. For the object of all our study is not knowledge, but wisdom, and we move to dwindling ends if we search out all the secrets of matter and forget the secrets of the spirit. The great round of studies which make up the university, its libraries and laboratories, the accumulation of the past and the discovery of the future, these are each and all but the scaffolding by which the race rises to those conceptions of the Divine and the spiritual uttered and summed in its books of power. Listening to their teaching we may even learn that the ascent of man is more important than his descent, his future of more consequence than his origin — that it is his

birth, and not his death, which is a sleep and a forgetting.

But books of use or books of power — the indiscriminate eulogy of books and reading has ceased to be possible even at the opening of a building dedicated to both. Their criticism has begun. Books are no longer the unique property of the scholar. We all buy books. Most of us read them. Many of you write them. The use of books is the one side of learning on which we all claim an opinion. Yet owned, read, written, or wholly laid aside in a busy life, the use of books, which each of us knows, is individual and personal. Standing to-day in the home of a collection which, we trust, is to be one of the larger libraries of learning, landmark, and lighthouse at once, recording the past and lighting the pathless future, this individual and personal use is inevitably before us, cramping and limiting our conception of the relations, the aims, and the ends of a great library. Its very beginnings about us raise a doubt as to the wisdom of these endless accumulations of print. The peril of the mere aggregate was, perhaps, never plainer than in these days, when the great glacier of democracy slides on, making high places low and low high — one would be glad to believe, preparing the pathway of a new lordship of learning, but one is fain to fear making easy the track and broad the road for an evil over-lordship of mediocrity in learning and in literature. Our own democracy, we are assured, has ceased to read anything but fiction, and demands this, not book-meal but piece-meal, in monthly, weekly, or even daily doses.

The vast book-stack of the modern library, in which volumes lose their individuality as completely as urns in a columbarium, and like them but too often hold naught but dead and forgotten dust, is far removed from the still air of delightful studies which we associate with our own loved libraries. "I seldom go there," says Emerson of the University Library he used, "without renewing my conviction that the best of it all is already within the four walls of my study at home." The ablest of American editors recently urged in the most brilliant of American newspapers that the Library of Congress should be reduced to a sound working collection of 50,000 volumes, and the rest of its treasures dissipated or stored. I have myself heard the suggestion in regard to this library, and from one of academic connection, that its future usefulness would be increased if its future bulk were restricted. Whether we listen to the philosopher, the editor, or the university trustee; whatever fanned and winnowed opinions we apply to the great threshing floor on whose round the feet of the ages slowly tread out the wheat from the chaff in the garnered harvest of human thought, the remnant will be small — measured by high thought or narrow utility. The mere mass of our libraries already overtaxes our utmost ability to classify, to catalogue, and to administer. As we watch their bulk grow, on whatever side of the great altar of learning we worship, our fears increase that these heaped offerings will stifle the sacred fire. This weighty weapon of letters forged by generations, this mighty armor and panoply of learning on whose myriad rivets so many hammers have

rung, has outgrown the individual, and we begin to doubt its ultimate value to society.

Thus men ever err in their early thought on the new duties and fresh responsibilities created for men by associate man. In the field of organized life the whole is always greater than the sum of its parts. The body is more than an aggregate of cells. The soul wiser than all its faculties. A nation more puissant than any census of its citizens. Man more than men. The secret of this supremacy over the sterile synthesis of sense, the root and germ of this mastery over the mere mechanics of life, and the bald and barren arithmetic of existence, lies in the capacity to know the present and to remember the past — in consciousness, out of which conscience grows, and in memory, Mnemosyne, mother of all the Muses and parent of all learning. Rightly in all history do we measure the value of every human society to Humanity by its power to awake to its own existence and be aware of its own past. This is the

— "mystery in the soul of State  
Which hath an operation more divine  
Than breath or pen can give expression to —"

This exalts the microscopic municipalities of Greece. This abases the dumb millions of Asia. Our own articulate millions, deficient in much, have done most for the world, not by material development, but by demonstrating that 62,000,000 spread over a continent can enjoy a consciousness as constant, continuous, and complete as the handful of citizens in the market-place of a Greek city, less in population than the ward in which we stand, smaller in area than the open spaces about this University. This general capacity to think as one and remember as a whole differences modern societies from all the past, save that of Greece. This has brought the awakening of nations in this century, a mightier resurrection with power than the awakening of men in the sixteenth century. With the future awakening of man the work will be complete. Until it is, national consciousness and national memory, creating conscious national life, are the determining conditions of human progress. The problem which Greece solved by making its communities small, the modern world triumphantly meets by making them large and live. It secures this through the newspaper, the print of the present, which sets at one in consciousness vast masses of men which set apart in space. For generations separated in time, the library, the print of the past, preserves for society the sacred oracles of memory. Misunderstood, misappreciated, placed in opposition, treated as antagonists, the editor assuring us that the newspaper has superseded the printed book, the librarian hesitating to cumber his shelves with the fugitive issues of the newspaper, these twin and vital organs in society still supplement and correlate each other.

The newspaper is the library of the moment, the library is the newspaper of all time. We open a newspaper to learn what we are as a nation. We enter a library to learn what we were. The revelations of neither are altogether satisfactory. We object to the library because it does not tell enough of the past. Too often we object to the newspaper because it tells too much of the present. The faults and shortcomings of the



past, however plainly told, rouse no unpleasant sense of responsibility. In our own individual experience we have each of us had our private and personal quarrel with consciousness and memory for setting in too clear a light the sins and duties, the lacks and demands of the past and passing day. The revelation is no pleasanter when consciousness, memory, and responsibility are social and national. Yet it is only by accepting both a complete social consciousness and a complete social memory that a society can be created whose ultimate end is the highest development of each of its individuals, whose service is the highest duty of all its members. Lavish margin of error in the newspaper too often leads us by some slain truth to ask with the soldier at Philippi:

"Messenger of error—  
Why dost thou show to the apt thoughts of men  
The things that are not?"

But, like Cassius, the truth is self-slain and dies among its friends. It still remains true that the newspaper is oftener challenged for telling what is unpleasant than for recording what is untrue, and the refined and cultured soul, which objects to the newspaper because it reeks with the ill news of society for whose ills no man can avoid his just share of responsibility, but imitate the Pharaoh, who slew the messengers of evil and sunk in willful ignorance to an ignoble grave.

The nation which lives by the newspaper will lose touch with the past. The nation which lives in the library will want knowledge of the present. We know all too much as Americans of the peril of thinking by newspapers. German thought has run in the seclusive channel of the academic library to the lack and loss of civic consciousness. Germany was the last of modern States to act as a people. We were the first. The balance and connection between the newspaper and the library, news and liberal letters, the reporter and the professor, cuts up by the roots the frequent conception of the library as a place occult, withheld, untrod; shut apart from practical ends, the grant of society to the scholar—useful to letters, useless to life. This "idol of the market-place" falls to pieces confronted by the facts of social structure. As well might the brain be held silent, the voice of memory dumb, the light of consciousness darkness by the side of the brute mechanical forces of the body, silence, seclusion, separation from the active life of society, these may be for the exchange and the market-place, the railroad and the factory, vast, dumb mechanic processes which perish in producing, but not for the library—not here, not here. These walls ring with war. They sound with the conflicts of the race. Here, rather than in any arsenal is heard

—"the infinite fierce chorus,  
The cries of agony, the endless groan,  
Which, through the ages that have gone before us,  
In long reverberations reach our own."

Thus much 'or the library in organized society. Long since have we known of books as the counsellors and comforters of men. To us all they have been teachers, to each of us companions. That great majority, greater in wisdom no less than in number, in which by the iron decrees of fate so many are called and so few are chosen to

lasting immortality, holds all of whom living the world was not worthy, but of whom dead it slowly seeks to be. Here and here alone in all shapes and forms, we build the sepulchres of the prophets whom our fathers crucified and here doubtless our children will build the sepulchres of those who in our day are despised and afflicted of men for the truth's sake. In joy and in grief, in life and in death some book supports, sustains, and soothes each of us, and in this library the very light has been trained to teach us at every window and door that we enter it to pass within the presence of the mighty dead, to enjoy the companionship of that great company no man can number of wise men made perfect by time.

But to the seeing eye and the hearing ear, awake and attent to all that a library is, not for men but for man, not for individuals but for the race, a greater than Solomon is here, and a mightier shape fills these halls and looks down from these shelves than all the trooped and illustrious dead. These books, shelf on shelf, these volumes, which fit subject by subject into the storied arch of human knowledge, resting one side on metaphysics and the other on history, the science of mind and the science of man, seem existent human memory. The complete library would round and fill the record of the race. At best, we have but a beggarly fragment. If a single copy of each of the 13,000,000 volumes which have dropped from the press in 450 years were by some glad miracle multiplying knowledge gathered in one place, human memory would be unbroken for this short span of its long stay on the globe. Of 13,000,000 but 1,000,000 rest in the largest library on earth in Bloomsbury Square, and not a half are gathered in all known libraries. But such as it is, large or small, complete or incomplete, a great library to its capacity gives, as this has begun to do, the only measure we have of the recollection of the race. Here we stand face to face not with men or nations, race or people, but with man. Blindly our humanity still struggles to shape its thought, dumb inarticulate, unconscious, travelling in darkness and laboring in pain, century by century, and generation by generation, in the slow pilgrimage toward the consciousness and consecration before it. The thunder of its power who shall know? Who shall sound its depths or scale its heights? Who shall know it in all its compass and sound, measure the confines thereof or prophesy its far final coming? These are all hid in the inscrutable decrees of God from the sight of men, but here, here and in places like this, there rises before us like an exhalation of the past in these volumes, in this library, the majestic and visible memory of man.

Rightly here, as in that larger treasure-house in London, have we gathered museum and library under the same roof. These shapeless fragments worked by the early cunning of savage man, these inscribed marbles and sculptured slabs, these tablets and relics of another and a distant life, these all, each in its place, play their part in the recorded memory of the race. Out of every fragment, from every book shines this Ancient of Days, who before Abraham was and after us shall be. Who and what are we, creatures of a day, tollers of an hour, to be measuring by our experience the metes and bounds in the manifesta-



tions of his mighty memory. Rather let our labor be given to render complete and to transmit unbroken our share in this great heritage by preserving the universal printed record of the life about us. The librarian, falling far short of the honor and amplitude of his office, standing between the living past and the slowly dying life of the present, now and then apologizes for saving every empty volume, because none but prescient omniscience can tell which of 10,000 titles will be demanded by some solitary reader a century hence. How petty the plea, how narrow the argument, how infinitesimal the claims of this distant reader who, after all, may never appear! But how simple, how sufficient, how adequate becomes the reason for the preservation of every volume when we remember that it, too, is a part of this vast image of human memory seated by the slow River of Time, more vocal than that of Memnon, older and younger, and with every fresh sunburst of genius breaking into fresh song!

In high reason has our own Historical Society gathered every volume which fell in this State and city from the press of the last century. Only thus can this span of human memory be set forth without a single forgetful flaw. If the like effort is made here to fill a like responsibility for the passing moment to the future, it is possible that the Historical Society of another century will not find it necessary to pay \$700 for an almanac which might once have been had for a penny, and yet how grievous the gap in the continuous and social memory of this our city if the solitary copy left of Bradford's Almanac, the first product of our press, had not found a secure resting-place.

A great library, therefore, does not merely transmit the memory of the past; it is daily providing memory for the future, safe, preserved "against the wreckful siege of battering days." For the individual no worse hap can fall than loss of memory. All other powers may remain. This lost, all are worthless. Stripped of memory, the soul has no future and no past, naught save an infructuous now. Nor less, the race. The destruction of the Alexandrian Library, whether with Abulfaraj we attribute it to the intelligent Moslem, or with Gibbon to the ignorant monk, was not the loss of so many books and parchments. It was the paralysis of a great lobe of human memory. Fatal lesion had fallen on the localized organ of recollection in the brain of humanity. If we had the 200 plays of Aeschylus, the 160 of Sophocles, the last books of Livy, the missing annals of Tacitus, which this library held, the stature of these writers would not be increased. Like the greater peaks of every chain they already rise as they recede. It is only the foot-hill which needs bulk. These, and lost books like them, would fill for us the full measures of classic memory. As library after library perished and book after book shared the fate of those gathered by Ptolemy, the wreck and loss of human memory went on. The ages that we call dark lacked not in men of action. Those ages of faith had their men of thought matching any before or after. They laid for us the foundations of a civil liberty more indestructible than that of Rome. The piers of that great arch of law along which our rights daily travel in safety were built

by them. Their architecture and their sculpture equals any. Their knowledge of the earth, as a whole, was immeasurably in advance of classic conception. They furnished in Dante one of the two or three poets for all time, and in the Roman Church they gave the race a creation and conception of whose future it would be a rash man who ventured to say that it was destined to be less than its past, imperial as its history has been. These ages were dark, not from lack of light and of leading, but from lack of memory. The ages had lost touch of the elbow in their march through the dark defile of time. The Renaissance was less the revival of human knowledge than the recovery of human memory. Age was joined again to age in the unbroken sequence of continuous recollection, and Greece laid her hands to transmit an Apostolic succession of memory on the bowed and studious head of the modern world.

To play its part in transmitting and preserving human memory this library is to-night opened and dedicated. Our Library Committee, and you, sir, its head, who have shown us that whole libraries of comment may be condensed into a volume by your magic alembic, providing for criticism a new instrument of precision akin to the measurements and the analysis of the exact science—you, sir, in the loving care you have given this building, have not been providing a retreat for scholars; you have built and fashioned here another refuge and stronghold, fortified

"Against confounding Age's cruel knife  
That he shall never cut from memory."

The architect of this building has not wrought in mere brick and stone; he has added to those shrines and centres of human memory to which its treasures gravitate for their security and convenience. This university, in receiving this building from its Finance Committee, has raised its cost, and whose head first suggested its erection, is placed in a position where it can discharge not only the first duty of a university, to which it has always been true, of thinking for the community, but the second, which is like unto it, of remembering for society.

#### LIBRARY OR LIBRARIES.

BY CEPHAS BRAINERD.

*From the Young Men's Era, Mar. 12, 1891.*

THE *Young Men's Era* of January 1 contained an article entitled "Libraries vs. Library" by Mr. Poole, the long-time and faithful librarian of the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City. His views are always entitled to consideration, but somehow there seems to be a sort of incompleteness in the article to which he has attached his name.

There are not wanting gentlemen connected with the Associations who have given a great deal of reflection and labor to matters connected with the library, who cannot agree with Mr. Poole as to the importance and need of a number of circulating libraries. On the contrary, it seems unwise for the associations having a metropolitan organization, as in Philadelphia and other large cities, to attempt to establish more than one circulating library. There are many considerations favoring this view.

First, the immense cost of the mere books necessary for a respectable library of that character. A reasonably good circulating library must contain a multitude of books other than those essential in a reference library; that is, those books usually classified as "standard." There is a raft of what might be called ephemeral literature which is the very material of which a circulating library is largely composed, and the expense of keeping up the number of volumes necessary for a half dozen or a dozen circulating libraries in a city would, in respect of this ever-changing class of books, be very great.

Second, the space which a circulating library would occupy is large, and there is not to-day probably an association building in the country which has room for anything like a decent circulating library. Take, for instance, the city of Chicago. The room necessary for one adequate circulating library would be greater than the whole space occupied by the association, exclusive of its lecture-room; indeed that space would accommodate a very small circulating library. In addition to this central space, how are the branches of the Chicago Association, the branches of the Philadelphia Association, or the branches of the Boston Association or of New York, to acquire the money needed for the erection of the buildings necessary to contain the branch circulating libraries?

Third, to this should be added the expense of conducting such a library. Suppose the eleven branches of the Association in New York were each to set out to pay the salaries of the men necessary to run a good circulating library in each, where, in view of the difficulty of obtaining the money *now* necessary to carry on the work as it is conducted, would they obtain the funds required for the administration of each of these libraries?

Fourth, it is hardly to be expected that the representative of a circulating library would do much in suggesting reading for the young men; that relation would not subsist between librarian and applicant for books, nor between applicant and the assistant of the librarian. Mr. Poole must not judge of the interest which the ordinary librarian would take in the young men who come to his room, by the interest which he, an old-time Association worker, takes in young men.

No, the true plan is, certainly until the Associations get to be much richer than they are now, to establish in the branches the best reference library that can be acquired. It should be strong in theological and biblical literature; strong in encyclopedias and books out of which other books are made; fairly supplied with books on practical topics for young men and students. Such a library of two or three thousand volumes would make a very handsome collection, and would be a very good educational agency. To this from time to time should be added the books necessary for a reading library, as standard histories and biographies. Books on art subjects, poetry, general literature, travels, and books which are works of art in themselves, should be acquired as the means are furnished. There should be one great circulating library, convenient of access, and from this should be distributed to the branches the books required by the members of the Associations at their homes, and about

this there would not be the slightest difficulty. The telephone service in all our cities would enable each branch without any trouble to call up every day all the books that are required for distribution to the members on the evening of that day, and such books could be placed with each one of the branches without the slightest inconvenience.

This system of distribution has prevailed in many cities for years, in respect of other libraries, and no complaint has ever been made that any real inconvenience had been experienced. Persons familiar with the book distribution in large cities understand this well.

Then in regard to the art-books of exceptional value and great rarity, there would be no difficulty in having these on exhibition and for use at one or another of the branches from time to time; a series of cases could be prepared and always at hand at the book centre in which these valuable works could be placed for transportation to the branches in turn, there to remain for such time as might be desirable.

Let no one suppose that the writer is unwilling that each branch should be possessed of a great circulating library. On the contrary, he is perfectly willing that each branch have such a library of a hundred thousand volumes, if that can be had. The trouble just now is that no Association in the country is able to acquire one good circulating library, much less as many as it has branches. But each Association can address itself to the obtaining of *one*, larger or smaller; and it is a great deal wiser to try for one with a prospect of success, than to talk a dozen when everybody knows it is impossible to obtain them.

#### AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY ECONOMY. — W. I.

FLETCHER, A.M., LIBRARIAN OF AMHERST COLLEGE, INSTRUCTOR.

INSTRUCTION in this department will be given daily (except Saturday) from two to four p.m., in the form of practical lectures by Mr. Fletcher, in which the whole field of library work will be gone over. The class will be furnished with necessary blanks, etc., and required to go through with each process as it is described. The class will be conducted as one of beginners, no previous knowledge of library work being expected. At the same time, care will be taken to make the work at each stage so thorough as to be of use to those already possessed of the mere rudiments.

The class will also meet forenoons from 10 to 12 o'clock, for practice, under Mr. Fletcher's supervision, in various forms of library work, according to the needs of the different pupils. For those who wish to take these hours for language work, other arrangements will be made.

The fee for this course is placed at \$10, and is the same for all pupils, whether members of the Summer School of Languages or not. Special arrangements will be made to accommodate any pupils who may wish to do more work than that of the regular class, and additional tuition will be given at modern rates.

For further information address Wm. I. Fletcher, Amherst, Mass.

With regard to rooms and board address Elmer P. Smith, Amherst, Mass.

### American Library Association.

#### ENDOWMENT FUND.

THE amounts that were promised by Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania have been raised.

### State Library Associations.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of librarians was held at the State Library, Augusta, March 19, 1891, for the purpose of forming a State Association. The organization was effected, and the following officers chosen for the first year: President, Leonard Dwight Carver, State Librarian. Vice-Presidents, E. Winslow Hall, Librarian Colby University, G. Willard Wood, Librarian Bates College. Secretary, Harriet Converse Fernald, Librarian Maine State College. Treasurer, G. T. Little, Librarian Bowdoin College.

#### CONSTITUTION.

ART. I. — NAME. — This organization shall be called the Maine Library Association.

ART. II. — OBJECT OF THE ASSOCIATION. — Its object shall be to promote the library interests of the State of Maine.

ART. III. — MEMBERS. — Any person interested in promoting the object of the Association may become a member by vote of the Executive Board and payment to the Treasurer of the annual assessment.

ART. IV. — OFFICERS. — The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, who shall together constitute the Executive Board, and serve until their successors are chosen.

ART. V. — MEETINGS. — There shall be one or more meetings each year, at such times and places as may be fixed by the Executive Board.

ART. VI. — ASSESSMENTS. — The annual assessment shall be fifty cents. No officer, committee or member of the association shall incur any expenses in its name, unless authorized by specific vote of the Executive Board.

HARRIET CONVERSE FERNALD, *Secretary.*

#### NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A WELL-ATTENDED and enthusiastic meeting was held in the hall of the Newark Library, April 2. There were representatives from libraries in various parts of the State, besides a large delegation of the pupils of the Library School of Albany.

When Friday's meeting opened there were 36 members on the roll-book. At the close the number had swelled to 57. A committee of three was appointed to select the Association's colors. It has been proposed that the library associations, as fast as formed, should adopt the colors of the leading college of the State in which it was. There was objection to this, and "Jersey blue" was chosen by the committee with a majority vote of one. Mrs. Williamson, of Elizabeth, who is prominently connected with the library in that city, touched upon an interesting point when she asked for information as to what method should be followed to make the Elizabeth Library a public institution in the full sense of the term, so that it might receive aid from the municipality. Librarian Hill, of the local institution, stated that he has received letters from many quarters of the State asking for information on this very point. In a great number of the towns and smaller cities there are free libraries, but they are supported by subscriptions from individuals solely. President Prall explained that he was the framer of the bill under which the libraries in the larger cities now obtain support from the State. A committee composed of Wm. R. Weeks, of Newark, Mrs. Williamson, of Elizabeth, and Professor Richardson, of Princeton College, was finally appointed to prepare a general library act to have reference to towns and villages and to make provision for State Appropriation for their sustenance.

The most interesting feature of the meeting was a short but pointed address made by Mr. Melvil Dewey. The aim of his address was to explain the truest and highest use of the Public Library and what part the State Library Association might play in furthering the efficiency of the library.

Mr. Eastman, a pupil of the State Library School, gave a short talk in which he described the workings of the school. A telegram was received from Nathaniel Niles, of New York, in which he expressed his regret at not being able to attend, and concluding with the statement that there are a thousand school libraries in New Jersey, where children are being educated to help on the cause of the Public Library.

At the close of the meeting President Prall tendered his resignation, on account of his departure to a new pastorate in the State of New York. Resolutions were passed, thanking him for the service he has rendered the Association, coupled with an expression of regret at his resignation.

## WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE first annual meeting was held March 11. It was well attended.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by the President of the convention, Dr. K. A. Linderfelt, who delivered an address on the general objects of the Association. He showed that Wisconsin was much behind surrounding States in the matter of free public circulating libraries, although strong in large reference libraries, and that much missionary work could be done by this Association.

Mr. F. A. Hutchins, Secretary of the Association, then read a carefully prepared and instructive paper on the condition and prospects of the Wisconsin town libraries. He thought that much might be done by this association, in suggestions to the department of public instruction, in the supervision of these libraries. A healthy library sentiment should be worked up in the Wisconsin towns; only 25 per cent. of them were taking advantage of the town library law, and there is a general lack of appreciation of the beneficent possibilities of the law.

The paper was followed by a vigorous discussion by Messrs. Salisbury, Chandler, F. A. Hutchins, Linderfelt, Birge, Thwaites and others.

Dr. E. A. Birge gave an informal talk on the proper conduct of free city libraries. The questions which he freely speered at the librarians present brought out a lively debate, in which nearly all those present took part. Much valuable information was brought out, and there was a free interchange of experiences.

In the evening there was also a good attendance, and much interest was manifested in the proceedings.

Secretary Hutchins opened with a talk on the manner of establishing free city libraries under the State law, and the cultivation of public sentiment in communities that should have such libraries. The fact was brought out that Whitewater, Oshkosh, Racine, and several other cities would like such libraries, and Mr. Hutchins was kept busy answering a cross-fire of questions as to the methods of inaugurating them. The Secretary was well informed, having been chiefly instrumental in securing the city library in Beaver Dam, and being in charge of the town library system, in the State Public Instruction office.

Secretary R. G. Thwaites, of the State Historical Society, then spoke on the work of city libraries in the line of local history. Mr. Thwaites said that such libraries should make full collections of local newspaper files, and of pamphlets,

addresses, sermons, directories, maps, and other matters illustrative of the town's life; there should also be scrap-books made up of historical and other newspaper clippings relative to the town; the library should also have on its shelves a full line of State, county, and local histories; and the library board can in many cases become the centre for work in the line of popular historical lecture courses for young people, after the fashion of the "Old South" lectures, in Boston, Indianapolis, Chicago, Madison (Wis.), and other places throughout the country. The interesting discussion which ensued was participated by Messrs. Linderfelt, Birge, Thwaites and Salisbury, and Miss West.

Prof. W. D. Parker, Inspector of High Schools, was unavoidably absent, but had left a paper on Free High School Libraries, in the improvement of which this association will do a great deal of good work. These libraries have been greatly improved in the past year.

After an informal discussion of the various matters that had come up during the conference officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

President, K. A. Linderfelt, Librarian of Milwaukee Public Library.

Vice-President, R. G. Thwaites, Secretary State Historical Society, Madison.

Secretary and Treasurer, F. A. Hutchins, library clerk Public Instruction office, Madison.

The meeting then stood adjourned, subject to the call of the Executive Committee.

## New York Library Club.

## MARCH MEETING.

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, the regular March meeting of the New York Library Club was held on the 12th in the Railroad Men's Building, Madison Avenue. About 50 members attended. President Baker, after calling attention to the varied character of the libraries in which the Club had met during the current year, introduced Mr. G. A. Warburton, Secretary of the Railroad Men's Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, who was announced to speak on the work accomplished by the libraries for railway employees.

*Mr. Warburton.*—Mr. President, and friends: Our work among railroad men began at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1874. It was started by a railroad man, one who had been dissipated, but had begun a new life. He knew the nature of the temptations to which railroad men are exposed, induced

ministers to preach to them in the waiting-rooms, and finally obtained rooms for organized work in the depot building. He made a visit to this city; the matter was laid before Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt; he became interested, and the result is this building for the railroad men of New York. Any employee of any road terminating at the Grand Central Station, or of any company associated with such roads, is entitled to its use. There are 1,400 members in the city, and over 2000 altogether. The map before you shows the railroad branches of the Young Men's Christian Association that are in the United States. There are 98 of them; 26 are in New York State. Their methods do not differ greatly from the other branches. Their results are evident in greater cleanliness and in intellectual growth. Most of them have small libraries. This is the largest of any, and some are very small indeed. Thirteen librarians are employed by the Young Men's Christian Association, and the railroad branches have one of these. At important terminal points branches exist, but there are 301 stations on the Grand Central road, and at most of them the men cannot get books to read. If libraries exist, the length of the men's hours prevent them from getting books. So the plan was adopted that any man between New York and Buffalo can become a member on payment of one dollar, for which books are sent and returned by railway service. Some weaker associations are not able to add new books; we lend to these as well. An old railroad man was recently remarking the change which has been wrought. Railroad men used to be spoken of as a rough set; they had a disreputable name. The only place they had to go to during off time, when they must remain near the station, in case they are wanted for extra service, was to some old baggage-car or a saloon. Naturally the men were rough and the work was unpopular. Now it is their boast that they are the employees of a railway company; their self-respect has been developed. Some feared it would make the men idle and unruly to have these privileges. Permission was obtained to open three branches on the Union Pacific road, and the effect was noted. The government of the road report that the character of the service has greatly improved wherever these stations are started. [In reply to questions of members:] The station agent is instructed to handle our business as though it was the road's. We have had no serious difficulty in getting books back. About 200 volumes a month go to other stations. We intend to extend this out-of-town circulation. The out-of-town men have

our printed catalogue and requisition blanks, on which they must put 10 books; this gives the librarian some chance to direct the reading. Books may be kept two weeks, exclusive of time required to send and return. There is a fine of 5 c. per week on overdue books. Fiction is 65 % of the whole circulation; the rest is largely history, useful arts, and religion. We have a special division for railroad literature, of which 40 volumes per month circulate.

*Mr. Peoples.* — A great many librarians would be glad to get fiction down to 65 %. It is the more creditable, as you have no class "Juvenile Literature" in which to bury a great deal of fiction.

*The President.* — There is fiction and fiction; good fiction is a good thing to have and to read. When I hear statistics as to fiction read in libraries I want to know what proportion the fiction *on the shelves* bears to the whole, and what its character is. Will Mr. Warburton tell us what the character of his is?

*Mr. Warburton.* — The catalogue will show the character of the fiction. Dickens, Thackeray, Scott, George Eliot, and the other standard writers of fiction are read.

*The President* suggested that a recess of fifteen minutes be taken, in order to view the building. The arrangements for the comfort, refreshment, and entertainment of the men met with hearty approval; among them were noted a reading-room, a tidy lunch-room, where substantial eatables were set forth, a room for games, its occupants intensely interested in dominoes, backgammon, and draughts, and a roomy hall with a piano and a handsome carved organ for social and religious assembly. A dignified entrance-hall, offices, and sleeping-rooms comprise the remainder of the building, in which the library, with its air of comfort and privacy, is, after all, the most attractive portion.

The meeting was again called to order at 3:30 p.m. The Treasurer's report was read. The following persons were elected to membership: Miss Sarah W. Cattell, Miss H. E. Branch, Mr. Thomas L. Montgomery, Mr. Alfred C. Herzog, and Mr. W. K. Stetson. The reports of the November, December, and January meetings, as printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, were accepted.

*The President* informed the Club that three invitations had been received by the Executive Committee for the May meeting. One of these invited the Club to meet at Princeton. It would pleasantly vary the programme of the Club, but as the annual elections were to be held at that



time, the committee would like some expression of opinion from the Club to guide their choice. Twenty-one voted in favor of meeting at Princeton; six were opposed.

*Mr. Cohen* suggested that the Manual Committee confer with the makers of the City Directory then preparing, and use the material collected by them in making the directory as complete and trustworthy as possible in its library information. No action was taken.

It was voted that a Nominating Committee be appointed for the May election, when a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, and a Secretary are to be elected by ballot.

*The President* appointed Mr. Poole, Mr. Cohen, and Miss Denio as the committee.

*The President* spoke briefly of the topic for discussion, "The duties of a library to its staff." He believed the Club was broad enough and comprehensive enough to be able to view the subject from all sides, and requested a general and frank expression of opinion on a topic in which it was to be presumed all were interested.

*The Secretary* read a paper introductory to the discussion, which was designed to suggest some general phases of the question. The body of the paper is printed elsewhere.

*The President.*—The paper touches a point in which I heartily concur with the position taken. There is too much talk which is merely sentimental in regard to "a spirit of devotion" and the "missionary spirit" in library work. It no more devolves upon librarians to sacrifice themselves and their own interests than upon other men and women. They, too, have families whose welfare they are bound to consider; or they at least owe something to the dignity of their own profession. They are bound to make a fair and just return of work done for pay received; to do their full duty they are not bound to sacrifice themselves, their opportunities, their health, to advance what is termed the interests of libraries. There needs to be a different attitude on the part of the public. Entire strangers will coolly request some busy and overworked librarian to spend hours in making them out lists of books, when they would be astounded if a person should demand their own time and professional knowledge without hint of recompense in like manner. No one would approach a lawyer or member of any other profession thus. I leave such requests on my table until they are too old to answer, and then throw them in the wastebasket. My time and services are due to the institution to which I belong.

*Mr. Poole.*—It is certainly true that the library

staff needs opportunity to read, to cultivate the mind and broaden ideas. They cannot devote all their time to mechanical work. As regards the librarian's duty to his staff, he should look to its interests, show a kindly feeling in its welfare. If an assistant shows aptitude and is likely to expand, advance him; give him some variety of work and an opportunity to learn the different classes of library work. Promotion should be in the line of the staff if possible.

*Mr. Stevens.*—I take a deep interest in the subject. My staff and I are fully agreed as to our duties to one another; in fact, we agree on all points. We come together and go together, and we are tenderly mindful of one another's well-being. In fact, I may say that my staff and I are one.

*The President.*—Mr. Stevens, we see, makes the interests of his staff his own. For my part, I should not think I was getting good work unless I felt my staff were satisfied with their conditions, worked willingly and kindly, and took a direct personal interest in their work. Mr. Hill has had plenty of experience, and looks as though he had something to say on the topic.

*Mr. Hill.*—My staff is here and I dare not say anything; but I disagree with some of the things which have been said. I do not believe librarians are ground down, and I do believe in making out lists of books. I think a great deal of good may be done in that way. As to letting assistants learn all the varieties of work, it is not possible in a busy library. My assistants have seven hours a day, and during off hours they may learn considerable here and there in different departments. Many do learn in this way, but the newcomer wants to learn it all at once. It all requires time.

*The President.*—I agree that the librarian's knowledge should continually be on tap, for his own customers.

*Dr. Richardson.*—I have had some experience, I think, which entitles me to speak on this subject. I have had thus far 175 members on my staff, and yet they were not "staff," because they were not bred to it. Student helpers are a poor staff to the librarian. The librarian's first duty to his staff is to see that they have plenty of work and that they do it well. He should take an active interest in keeping up their ideal of work and see that they receive a rational compensation.

*Mr. Hill.*—It is the trustees of libraries who are behind in this matter. The effort should be to educate them.

*The Secretary.*—The topic is not "the duties of the librarian" but of the library. In the paper,

"the library" was regarded as a composite made up of trustees, the public, the former government of the library, its established precedents, and other elements. It was taken for granted that the librarian knew his duty and was performing it.

*Miss Mosman.*—I have wanted to hear more said on the opposite side—in defence of the "spirit of devotion" and of sacrifice. I think our ideals are much too low. We need to have them raised at these meetings; to have our wish to serve the public increased. We need all the encouragements we can have to be philanthropic, to have "the missionary spirit."

*The Secretary.*—I think the attitude of the paper has been misunderstood on that point. It was not meant to dampen zeal for the public good or philanthropic endeavor, but to urge librarians to make the most of their own capacities in order to be still more philanthropic; in order to show a wiser zeal. The idea is that they require larger opportunity for mental and physical recreation, in order to do the best work of which they are capable. My own opinion is that library hours are, as a rule, too long.

*Mr. Poole.*—This question concerns us all, and is of great interest. The position of the essayist is, I think, tenable. The idea is that library workers should not wear themselves out uselessly. They should place a proper estimate on their services. They should be more assertive of their own needs and requirements. There is no reason why they should not strive to bring about more favorable conditions for themselves. Men strike for an eight-hour day. The librarian has certainly as just a right to demand that his hours shall be properly apportioned.

*Mr. Hill.*—There has been a reduction in library hours, rather than increase.

*Dr. Richardson.*—Where are the figures?

Mr. Hill referred to statistics collected by Mr. Winchester.

*Mr. Winchester.*—I sent out a circular letter asking for hours of work in different libraries. Eight hours, I think, will be found to be about the average. There were three who reported less than eight; a few had nine or ten hours, and in one instance the librarian gave eleven and twelve hours as his own daily hours of work. One leading librarian gives  $5\frac{3}{4}$  hours as his own office hours—9:45 a.m. to 12 and 2 p.m. to 5:30.

*Dr. Richardson.*—This is a practical question for me. I have been trying to decide whether to make an eight or a seven hour day. At the Association I asked all the librarians I could buttonhole. Most of them seemed to think eight

hours a fair day. Three of my assistants have a seven-hour day.

*The President.*—It certainly would be for the interest of librarians to have the hours of their staff reduced, as that would be the first movement necessary toward having their own hours lessened.

The meeting then adjourned. At an informal meeting of the Executive Committee it was resolved that a vote of thanks to Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Warburton, and Mr. Stevens be recorded, for their kindly hospitality to the Club.

M. I. CRANDALL, *Secretary.*

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### Reviews.

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GRÄSEL, Arnim. *Grundzüge der Bibliothekslehre mit bibliographischen und erläuternden Anmerkungen. Neubearbeitung von J. Petzholdts Katechismus der Bibliothekslehre.* Leipzig, J. J. Weber, 1890. 12+424 p. D. (Webers illustrierte Katechismen, no. 27.) Price, 4 m. 50 pf.

Petzholdt's *Katechismus* is one of our classics. In other words it is, like, for instance, Aristotle's "Politics," a book more talked about than read. But now that the "Constitution of Athens" has been discovered, probably some people will read the "Politics" too. And similarly Dr. Gräsel's book may lead some of us to the discovery that Petzholdt knew more than those who have not read him are likely, in the bottom of their hearts, to have given him credit for. Nevertheless his book was sadly behind the times; it needed the thorough remaking to which Dr. Gräsel has subjected it. The new book has been praised by a number of reviewers, and is probably by this time so well known to the readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL that each of them has quite made up his mind with which passages he agrees, and from which he dissents. Under such circumstances a detailed criticism of the text would be useless, if not impertinent. But perhaps the notes deserve more attention than they have received. On account of the fulness with which they cite the literature—especially the American literature—of each subject discussed, they are, for American readers, not the least valuable part of the book. Opening them at random to page 384 and counting the citations for only six pages, one finds that the LIBRARY JOURNAL is mentioned 28 times, *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* 17, *Petzholdt's Anzeiger* 14, the several publications of the L. A. U. K. 7, other periodicals 2, books and pamphlets in English 11, in other languages, chiefly German, 20—in all 99 citations. Now every well-furnished library will have most of the books cited. The beginner, therefore, who cannot escape from the "well-defined rut of one library" can nevertheless make himself, by the help of these citations, somewhat at home in the literature of the craft.

The last fifteen years have added to the literature of library economy a number of monographs far superior, for American purposes, to Dr. Gräsel's discussion of the same subjects. But (except Cousin's not particularly valuable book) no comprehensive survey of the whole field has been made. We have several good books on classification, and more and better books on cataloguing, while much of value is buried in the 1876 Report, in the *JOURNAL*, in the Transactions of the A. L. A. and of the L. A. U. K., and in the three periodicals successively published by the latter Association; but the major part of this was emphatically buried—it needed to be dug up. In the foreign literature of the subject the case was similar. Dr. Gräsel attempts to be the needed miner. He has staked out a large claim and worked it diligently, preserving most of the gold and washing away most of the gravel. His process of separation, which we can judge only by its results, may seem to American readers imperfect. At any rate it is doubtful whether a single one of us would have saved all that he has saved, or have rejected all that he has rejected. But even if we find in his book much to disagree with, we shall find much, perhaps more, that we can approve. Nor indeed need dissent from some of the opinions advanced blind us to the force with which they are presented. Indeed if we feel that library methods should be adapted to the library in which they are used, that they are relative, not absolute, we may profit most by the very passages from which we dissent. Dr. Gräsel himself is fully convinced of the relativity of library methods. He thinks (p. 152) "that system the best which most appropriately and completely corresponds to the special peculiarities and real needs of the library." His book is, therefore, rather suggestive than dogmatic. It is perhaps allowable to emphasize this one of Dr. Gräsel's many merits because the spirit which produces it seems to be vanishing from among us. The writer of the first paper ever printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* appreciated this relativity fully. But that was in the Dark Ages, in 1876. Since our Renaissance we are prone to attempt the solution of all, or nearly all problems without reference to their conditions. Hence the frequent advocacy of various schemes suited perhaps well enough to the ideals of the schemers, but without adaptability to any collection of existing facts in the heavens above or the earth beneath or the waters under the earth. And when these carefully graven abstractions have been made unto us, the tendency has not been wholly wanting to bow down to them and serve them. With this tendency towards the hard and fast Dr. Gräsel shows little sympathy, and his book, written with primary reference to conditions quite different from ours, must be read, if we are to get the most possible out of it, in the same spirit of catholicity with which it was written. Those who are able to approach the book in this spirit—that ought to mean all of us—cannot do better than to buy and read it. It is not the long-wished-for American manual of library economy, but the author of that future book, while he will not simply translate this one, will owe a large debt to Dr. Gräsel.

C. H. HULL.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

DZIATZKO, K. Bibliotheken. Abdruck aus dem Handwörterbuch der Staatswissenschaften. Jena, G. Fischer, 1891. 542-549 p. gr. 8<sup>o</sup>.

O'BRIEN, M. D. Free libraries. (Pages 327-349 of MACKAY, T: Pleas for liberty. London, 1891. O.)

PUBLIC library note-book; list of books wanted and remarks on those read; with preface by Hew Morrison, Chief Libn. P. L., Edinb. London, G. Waterson & Sons, 1891. 3d. and 6d.

### LOCAL.

Atlanta (Ga.) Y. M. L. Assoc. At a meeting held March 8, Mr. Gress, chairman of the citizens' committee for purchasing the Armstrong Library, suggested a plan by which he thought the money could be raised in a short time. It was that the public be asked to contribute to the fund on the instalment plan, paying their subscriptions in ten months. Thus a man subscribing \$100 could pay \$10 a month for ten months. On these terms, he felt sure, many would subscribe much more than if the money had to be paid all at once. Many would subscribe on these terms who would not subscribe at all otherwise. He himself would subscribe \$200 payable this way, but would not like to pull that sum out of his pocket now. Mr. Rice liked the idea and said if it were adopted he would subscribe \$25 instead of \$10. Mr. Kempton said that it would enable his firm to contribute \$50 instead of \$15. These remarks created no little enthusiasm, and it was unanimously agreed that this was the solution of the question of raising the money. The indications are now that if the plan presented is acceptable to the family of Dr. Armstrong, the money to purchase the library for the Young Men's Library will be raised in a short time.

Auburn (N. Y.) P. L. At a meeting of the trustees of the Auburn Public Library Corporation at the office of J. W. Mitchell, March 7, it was proposed to push the subscriptions, make collections, and obtain a temporary home for the library. There has been enough money subscribed for some time to assure the success of the library and give it a good start, but on account of the stringency of the market it was decided not to push collections until money might be easier. A committee was appointed to look after and lease suitable rooms which should do for the library until a building could be erected.

Baltimore (Md.) Mercantile L. The library has opened a new field of work which promises to be remarkably successful. A musical library has been started and, as a nucleus to what will eventually be a complete collection, the piano scores of a large number of standard musical works have been handsomely bound and will be circulated under the same rules that govern the ordinary book circulation. Operas, overtures, symphonies, sonatas, and miscellaneous works

will also be procured. It is said that there is only one other library in the country which has a musical library in connection with its other volumes, that being the Brooklyn Library.

*Bangor (Me.) P. L.* (8th rept.) Added 1411; total books 7629, pms. and period. 6178; circulated 46,467, consulted, 29,853; receipts \$6046.57; expenditures \$6106.48. "In 1889, through the kindness of Mrs. R. G. Thompson, the library received a complete set of bound volumes of the *Bangor Daily Evening Times*, 1858-1867. We hope to obtain other files of the early newspapers of Bangor, as well as any pamphlets relating to the history of our city. Such works are especially valuable in a library where they are often consulted, and books, which would otherwise be hidden in attics, when placed on our shelves, would be of inestimable value to local historians. If our friends could only realize how frequently such books and newspapers are called for, they would be less likely to dispose of them as useless rubbish."

*Bayonne (N. J.) P. L.* A public library, consisting of 2000 volumes, with leading newspapers and magazines, was opened at Bayonne, March 20. It is the gift of a few leading citizens to the Workingmen's Library and Reading-Room Association, which has also been provided with a commodious library building at a cost of \$5000.

*Bay Ridge (N. Y.) F. L.* A certificate of incorporation of the Bay Ridge Free Library Association of the town of New Utrecht was filed March 14, with the Secretary of State.

*Belfast (Me.) F. L.* Added 600; total 4717; card holders 1635 (30 % of Belfast's population). The small sale of the finding-lists does not warrant, in the opinion of the librarian, the time and expense of preparing them. The report closes as follows: "I wish to express my thanks to the public for their patience with delay when many are waiting for their books."

*Bloomington (Ill.) L. Assoc.* Added 421; total 11,535; circulated 13,103; borrowers 250.

The year just closing has been one of quiet usefulness on the part of the library, unmarked by any remarkable achievements or misfortunes. Notwithstanding the closest economy the revenues have not been quite sufficient to meet the running expenses. No attempt was made during the year to wipe out or reduce the debt of about \$4500, which still remains on the building. For two years the board has felt that the library should give way to the new churches and other important objects, but a plan for materially reducing if not entirely cancelling this debt is now maturing, and it is confidently expected that the incoming board will be able to successfully carry it out. The people of McLean County, who contributed over \$20,000 to secure this beautiful building, can certainly be relied upon for \$4500 more to entirely free it from debt. The work of arranging and cataloguing the books received is not yet completed. The value of the books is more than was at first believed, and quite a number of persons have become subscribers to the library in order to enjoy the new arrivals. The institution is very largely dependent on aid through

subscriptions from those who are not members but who wish to read its books.

*Boston (Mass.) P. L.* Mr. W. H. Whitmore, before the Committee on Cities of the Mass. Legislature, on March 13, spoke in favor of increasing the Board of Trustees of the Boston Public Library from five to nine members, three to be chosen each year. The present Board, he said, was unsatisfactory; that it had not acted for the joint benefit of the library and the people. So long as the different sections of the city were not represented, the increasing demand for branch libraries would continue.

LEAD, The, of our Public Library. (In *Boston Herald*, Mar. 27.) 1 col.

"It is the opinion among those who are acquainted with library work, and know how a great institution ought to be managed, that the next librarian in this institution should be not only a gentleman and a scholar, but a man competent to serve as the responsible head of a great library, and able to lift it into the prominence in the community which it deserves. He must be a man either acquainted with library work and strong enough to handle it in a large way, or he ought to be a person of such pronounced capacity that he can master his profession quickly and rise to the handling of the institution which the trustees may place in his hands.

"Dr. Winsor had no special training as a librarian, but in our Public Library he developed a genius for both the administrative and the technical work of his office. The prominence which he gave to the library was felt throughout the country, and it compelled such attention abroad that almost the first question that intelligent and cultivated foreigners used to ask on reaching Boston was: 'Where's your Public Library?' He made Boston a part of the learned constituency of the world. He did this by the virility of his management. He kept himself in touch with the people, and caused the library to respond to their needs. He also did it by increasing the supply of rare and remarkable books that give distinction to a great collection and cause it to be visited by scholars. He made our library useful at home and talked about abroad, and since his transfer to Cambridge the Harvard Library has been increasingly talked about and has deserved its growing reputation, while the Boston Public Library, even with its magnificent collections, has gradually come to a standstill. It has almost ceased to be felt as one of the active literary workshops of the United States, and the Harvard Library is constantly put before it, because there is a man at the head who knows what is in his library, and how to put its contents within the reach of those who desire to use it.

"It needs special and rare ability to fill the position. The only way to secure a suitable person is to place the man first and his technical training for his work second. It needs a man of large and varied executive ability, a man of wide acquaintance with books and with readers of books, a man who is himself a ripe scholar, a man who is at once able to command both the respect of his fellow-citizens and the honor and confidence



of scholars, to fill such a position and put his large personality into it. Other men may come and go; the trustees may resign or die; the librarian is their responsible representative; and they are simply the watchmen of the city and the people, charged with the duty of holding the librarian responsible for the success of the institution, and seeing that the library is administered in accordance with its traditions and laws.

"Much depends in the future for the people of Boston, and for the reputation of this city in Europe and America, upon the choice of the next librarian of our Public Library. He has his desk and office in the library, but he is really a permanent minister of public education, in touch with half a million of readers, in working relations with the public schools, supplying the highest and best sort of literature to people of cultivation, in daily contact by correspondence and by calls with the most eminent scholars abroad and at home. This is the sort of man we are anxious to see in the office of our public librarian. Such a man will reflect credit upon the trustees who may select him, and in due time he will increase even their own official importance by the dignity and character which he gives to the institution of which he is to the public the head and front. If a person of inferior endowments is chosen, we shall find the trustees chiefly engaged in trying to make a man of him, and the library will fail to make the impression which its merits deserve."

*Bridgeport (Conn.) P. L.* is to receive \$1000 by the will of Phineas T. Barnum, the showman.

*Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L.* (17th rept.) Added 1000; total 20,306; issued 45,828. "About 66% of the volumes loaned were fiction and juvenile reading, but if the time spent in reading and understanding a book could be registered, the preponderance would be with the more serious reading."

*Chicago P. L.* By the will of the late Jerome Beecher, a citizen of Chicago, the library receives \$2000 to be expended for books.

*Cincinnati (O.) Hospital L.* The trustees of the Cincinnati Hospital held a special meeting Feb. 11 to consider the question of removing the medical library of the institution to more commodious quarters than those in use at present. A number of plans were submitted, and it was finally determined to establish the library on the fourth floor of the Twelfth Street side of the institution.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* (22d rept.) Added 6223; total 62,380; circulated 234,238; membership cards 22,814.

More books (996 v.) were added in the class juvenile than in any other. These are largely duplicates of the best stories for children. Some of them have been purchased to the extent of from 20 to 40 or 50 copies, and of one book, "Little Lord Fauntleroy," 60 copies have failed to supply the demand. This, however, is not all that has been done for the young people. Many of the books noted as purchased in other classes, notably in American history, travels, and science, were bought especially for the use of the boys and girls both in school and out. The issue of books to young people was larger than ever before. Next

in order of amounts purchased come fiction (869), and history (344). 43 copies of the current numbers of the more popular magazines have been placed in the circulating department and issued for home use.

*Dover (N. H.) P. L.* Added 1205; total 14,602; issued 53,240. "During seven years the library has progressed at a rate that is remarkable, considering the resources at command. Starting at about as near nothing as possible in point of circulation and influence among the people of the city, with very few attractive and readable volumes in its possession handed down from a private corporation of comparatively ancient origin, it sprang into existence the liveliest of all the more or less lively institutions of the city and the age. The first purchase of books aroused a very active interest all over the town and it has never flagged, but is even more apparent than ever today. It comes from the fact that it has been the constant effort, and really the fundamental principle with the trustees and the librarian, to keep abreast or a little ahead of the public demand for books and all sorts of publications that were both instructive and entertaining. No new works have come out to claim public attention and approval that have not been carefully scrutinized and voted in or out as their actual merits or demerits appeared. With the removal to the present quarters, almost five years ago, we obtained better conveniences than before and the public benefits became more apparent, until long since the business and the demands upon the library had become so largely augmented that the present rooms were found to be inadequate, and it was decided by the trustees and the City Council that other provisions must be made, more ample and better suited to the public requirements. In pursuance of that purpose new library-rooms are now in process of construction believed to be sufficient for the next quarter century at least, centrally located, easy of access, and intended to embody all modern requirements for such a purpose.

"No library anywhere can pride itself in having a more intelligent, efficient and polite librarian than ours, and all can be always assured of the respect which one of that character knows how to manifest.

"Especially pains have been taken to reduce the number of school pupils who had been in the habit of studying in the reference-room, by providing books for them to use at their school-rooms, and thus leaving room for others. It has, however, become quite a problem to know what to do with the small urchins who would gladly take possession of this room to look over pictures. These boys, who have spent the hours of the day, perhaps, in the mill, have learned to come with clean hands and are usually quiet and well-behaved. They will look all the evening at the pictures in 'Our Dumb Animals,' or illustrated histories of the Civil War, and it seems contrary to the aim of the library to send them out into the street. Yet, by mere force of numbers, they sometimes keep out older persons who would like to use the room for purposes of study. At the new rooms it has been supposed that room has been provided for all who may wish to come. Yet, taking into account the increase of 2500



this year in the number of reading-room visitors, even with the limited number of chairs at their disposal, it may be safely predicted that the new room will very soon be well filled.

"This work has to be done by personal conversation, recommending books, and sometimes by inviting boys to the shelves and directing their attention to specially attractive books. It is sometimes slow, but generally sure in its results; and the large number of readers, among old as well as young, who rely on the library attendants almost wholly for their selection of reading, is proof that this study of individual tastes and needs is appreciated by the patrons of the library.

*Durand, Ill.* For a year the library has been a private institution, until now that it has become a valuable thing the parties interested in it propose to make it public property. In fact, they started it with the agreement that when it held 500 volumes they should offer them to the town. Accordingly, at the village election the residents will vote on whether they shall pay a tax of two-tenths per cent. for its support, with the understanding that, should it be carried and they ever rescind the action, it again becomes the property of the original holders. Andrew Ashton recently presented the society \$100, and other parties have contributed valuable books.

*Fall River (Mass.) P. L.* (31st rpt.) Added 1392; total 36,777; circulated 93,269; card-holders 8965; receipts \$4622.49; expenses \$7617.46.

*Farmington (Me.) P. L.* The recently opened library contains nearly 1500 volumes, and in the near future this number will be increased to 2500 by the addition of the old Social Library, whose shareholders are readily handing in their relinquishments to the Secretary of the new corporation. It is one of the best starts ever made in this direction in the State, and phenomenal, considering that there was no endowment to start with.

*Jacksonville (Fla.) P. L.* Added 341; total 4585; circulated 6720.

*Lancaster (Mass.) F. P. L.* (28th rpt.) Added 834; total 21,585; issued 12,824.

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* Added 7053; total 17,925; issued 119,833; reference and periodical depts. (estimated) 54,000; Sunday visits 8046.

"It must be borne in mind that a great circulation in a small library with few duplicates entails far more labor than the same circulation in a large library with many duplicates; for the reason that in a small library a large proportion of the books are always out and there will necessarily be frequent calls for books which are out. In the large library a requisition will seldom require more than one visit to the shelves, whereas, in the small library the attendants will oftentimes have to make many trips before the patron is supplied with some substitute for the book first called for.

"In the item of expense the reports of other public libraries in the United States show that our expenditure on salaries and working expenses has been remarkably less, in proportion to the amount expended in the purchase of books, than is the case with many of these other libraries. A comparison of the figures herewith submitted will make this point more clear.

	Books, Binding, and Periodicals.	Salaries.
St. Louis.....	\$8,105 98	\$10,400 23
Chicago.....	16,429 08	49,631 91
Detroit.....	10,247 53	14,708 17
Cincinnati.....	11,597 97	29,395 25
Paterson, N. J.....	1,565 09	3,288 35
Portland, Me.....	1,795 64	3,556 22
San Francisco.....	5,112 08	16,811 88
Springfield, Mass.....	8,949 07	6,125 81
Toledo, O.....	2,803 83	3,185 75
Los Angeles.....	11,803 49	6,156 03

"The importance of magazines and reviews cannot well be overestimated, having in view the fact that the best thought and most intelligent observation not only of questions of the day and of current literature, but on all branches of thought, is found in monographs contained in these periodicals and scientific and literary reviews. Indeed, the possession of complete sets of such reviews would alone form a library which would be a mine of the richest kind for all students. This mine has been made available by Poole's Index.

"We found one set, comprising 73 volumes of periodicals in the library when we took possession, and we have added 1430 volumes to this department. Our library is also enriched by the addition of a considerable number of musical scores, which have been eagerly availed of by the public. This new departure, for it is such, there being but about six libraries in the United States which have music for circulation, should be followed up, and the stock of scores on hand increased. There are a large number of musical people in this city who desire to see the best that is published in their profession, but who cannot afford to buy expensive scores for mere information. The library is thus enabled to furnish, at a small proportionate cost, the means of information for which the musical community is hungry. In the Art Department a number of important purchases have been made which have greatly increased the resources of the library and have afforded valuable assistance to the art clubs and other students of art. The extent to which they have been used shows their great popularity. We have also endeavored to make the library virtually a part of our public school system, by, firstly, giving all teachers the freedom of the library. Secondly, by supplying pedagogical literature, and, thirdly, by special attention upon the part of the librarian to the wants of the teachers, and lastly, by the addition of a large number of books for juveniles, and in making the free use of them by school-children dependent upon their school reports. The teachers have appreciated and availed themselves of these facilities, and that the attendance of school-children has been very gratifying both as to numbers and deportment.

"The Committee on Attendants has taken care to select from the crowd of applicants for positions only such as showed some promise of fitness, and capacity for the work required. Candidates have had to file written applications, and appear before the Committee for examination as to their qualifications. In fact, the Civil Service rules have been observed in making all appointments and promotions in the library. The management of the library, which has been entrusted entirely to the librarian, has given great satisfaction to the Board, and we believe also to the public.

"That the circulation of current periodicals is popular may best be judged by the fact that with

52 periodicals the circulation amounted to 4391 for the year.

"The large number of newspapers from surrounding towns, on file in the reading-rooms, required so much space that their continuance was deemed impracticable, and the donors of the papers have since transferred them to the Chamber of Commerce, where they are on file for use of the general public.

"On the 1st of July the Board of Directors extended the privileges of the library, during vacation, to all pupils of the public schools who attained an average of 90 per cent. in their examinations. Cards were issued to 272 pupils and the increase of juvenile visitors to the reading-rooms averaged 100 per day. The circulation of books to these children amounted to 11,830 volumes in ten weeks.

"The library staff deserve especial mention and praise for the patience and effort exerted to impress the youthful readers with a proper understanding of the use of the card catalog and other aids and guides, and to inspire consideration for the books; the result of the care exercised is very apparent and highly satisfactory from the moral effect and from a business standpoint as well; since the principles of care and cleanliness thus instilled in the minds of juvenile reader add 50 per cent. to the length of the life of a book on the library shelves."

*Lowell, April 5.*—The worst fire Lowell has had in many years occurred this afternoon. Boys set fire to a box of waste paper in the alley back of the Edison block, and the fire dropped into H. C. Church & Son's cellar. It spread rapidly, and consumed the basement of this shop and a store operated by the Goody Company, with a large stock of rubber goods put in only last week. On the second floor is the Public Library of the city, with 41,000 volumes.

The fire burned all of the library books in the alcove under the stairs leading up to the Masonic quarters. The rest of the library was wet, but the shelves gave considerable protection from the water that poured through the building, and many thousand volumes escaped. A great number, however, were blackened by smoke or soaked with water. The library has an insurance of \$20,000.

The private library of the late Dr. Nathan Allen, which was purchased by the city, was completely destroyed. Among the others was a file of the London *Lancet* from the first number.

*Marlboro (Mass.) P. L.* The trustees of the library met March 4. The following communication was received from Dr. H. E. Bigelow: "Given to the Marlborough Public Library from the estate of Levi Bigelow five hundred dollars (\$500) as a permanent fund, to be known as the March 12, 1891, fund, of which the income only is to be used annually. This income to be used as the trustees may direct, in the purchase of autographs, photographs, etc., or to help in taking care of old town records, or for any other similar purpose. Should the Marlborough Public Library cease to exist the five hundred dollars to go to the city of Marlborough, not to revert to the estate.—H. E. Bigelow."

*Merrill, Ill. T. B. Scott F. L.* The library was formally opened to the public March 25. Over 2000 volumes are now on the shelves. This is the carrying out of one of the provisions of the will of T. B. Scott, who bequeathed the city \$10,000 to establish and maintain a free library.

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* At the last board meeting Librarian Putnam read a communication signed "A Patron," suggesting that cuspidors ought to be provided in so American an institution as the public library. Mr. Putnam said it had been rather a matter of pride that the library had been able to dispense with cuspidors, and that it was the only library in the United States which had been able to do so.\* The result, he said, was highly satisfactory so far as the floors of the reading-room were concerned. The board voted to leave the matter to the discretion of the librarian, and it is not probable that the prayer of the petitioner will be granted.

The matter of the east side branch library did not come formally before the board, but was the subject of some conversation before and after the meeting. The board once voted to open a branch in the Winthrop school, but for a number of reasons it was never opened. The east side people apparently want the branch as much as ever, but some members of the board fear that if their desire is granted the board will be obliged to open several more branches in other parts of the city.

*Mount Airy (Pa.) Memorial L.* (6th rpt.) Books added 876; total 4504; loaned 10,151; receipts \$1821.58; disbursements \$1542.19. These figures do not include the cost of the erection of a handsome addition to the building last fall, through the generosity of a Mt. Airy lady.

*North Granby, Conn.* The Frederick H. Cossitt Library at North Granby was dedicated March 26. The building was planned by J. D. Sibley, of Middletown, and is of two stories, the lower, containing a hall, of brick, the upper, for the library and reading-room, of wood. The library is lighted by windows all around the dome, which is of nearly the size of the room, 24 x 36 feet. It is finished in Gulf cypress, and has natural wood cases for 5000 volumes, 1300 of which are already upon the shelves. About 100 volumes of standard works in fine bindings have just been given to the library by the family of Mr. Cossitt.

The Hon. W. C. Case made an eloquent address, beginning with a biographical sketch of F. H. Cossitt, who was born in North Granby in 1811, and spent his boyhood there, with the exception of a short time passed in Westfield, Mass. His father died about 1826, and at the urgent request of an uncle living in Tennessee, he went to that State to begin his business career. He was in several cities in the region between that time and 1842, when he went to Memphis, where he remained in the wholesale dry goods business until 1859, when he moved to New York, where he led an active life until his death in 1887. He had always regarded his native town with great affection, and left it \$10,000 for a free library in a manner to which his heirs had no legal obligation to pay the slightest regard.

\* This statement is erroneous. — Eus. L. J.

They, however, generously fulfilled his wishes, and the result is the library dedicated to-day.

Mr. Case spoke of the elevating influence of such a library, indeed, of all of the best books. He urged his hearers to read books somewhat above them, as Carlyle has said. He spoke of the communion with the souls of great authors, which may be held by looking along the library shelves, of the effect which the few books of his early boyhood, notably the "Pilgrim's Progress," had had upon him, and of the world of imagination which was revealed to him by the first novel which he read, Cooper's "Red Rover." He made a strong plea for good novels, whether novels of purpose or not, since the old objections to them as untrue have died away, since historians from Herodotus to Macaulay, and biographers from Plutarch to John S. C. Abbott, have distorted facts and painted men as demigods, whose documents prove to be monsters. He impressed upon his audience the fact that if a book is worth reading at all, it is worth reading many times, and closed with a glowing tribute to the library. After a third song by the choir, Miss C. M. Hewins read "The Story of a Town Library."

The library is to be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 3 to 5 and from 6 to 9. The librarian is Mr. G. S. Godard.

*New Brunswick (N. J.) F. P. L.* At a meeting, March 15, of the trustees lately appointed under the general law, it was agreed to lease the old library at Albany and Peace Streets, and the whole of the books in the Free Circulating Library for one year. Hitherto the library has been sustained by voluntary subscriptions only, whereas under the new law it will be maintained by a tax, which will be one-third of a mill upon all taxable property.

*New Orleans, La. Howard Mem. L.* Added 3766; total 16,393 (+ pms. 1178); readers 45,548.

During the year the public card catalogue has been increased by 8764 author, title, and subject cards, making the whole number 22,264, and zinc guides bearing printed labels have been inserted, greatly facilitating the use of the catalogue. The Murray books, as fast as received, have been fully catalogued, and the insertion of these cards, 3093 in number, in the card catalogue for the public, has made it necessary to use both card cases outside of the delivery-desk. The official card catalogue has been revised and increased to 8539 cards.

A notable work in the interest of the library has been kept up through the year by Mrs. L. H. Hinsdale, in preparing for the leading papers, at an average of three columns per week, a series of articles on special topics, thus bringing before the public the resources of the library in respect to each subject.

*N. Y. Academy of Medicine L.* The library contains over 40,000 volumes, about 12,000 pamphlets, and takes regularly over 400 current periodicals, comprising nearly all the medical journals of value published throughout the world. It is open free to the medical and legal profession and the public daily, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

*N. Y. Maimonides L.* Added 1711; total 36,367; home use 30,184; ref. use 9563. "That the percentage of fiction circulated has fallen from 85 per cent. of the reading in the year 1883, to 48 per cent. in 1890, is indeed remarkable, and would be phenomenal, but that the number of works other than fiction on the shelves of the library have been very materially increased during the period in question. That is to say, that while much of the increase in the use of the better class of literature is attributable to the improved tastes of many of the readers, this is not the sole cause. Much of it must be credited to the acquisition of a larger supply of books of a more instructive, more elevating character. It certainly vindicates the policy of endeavoring to appeal to the most diverse tastes of the readers, by securing an equitable adjustment in the contents of the library of works suitable for amusement or recreation, for information, and for inspiration to nobler ideals and purposes."

*Peabody, Mass. Peabody Institute.* (39th rpt.) Added 880; total 29,471; issued 34,807 (an increase of 13%).

*Pennsylvania, University of.* The library building, 5 views. (In *Harper's weekly*, Feb. 14, p. 124.)

*Richmond (Va.) P. L.* The Executive Committee of the Library Association held a meeting March 18 at the office of Mr. Thomas Nelson Page.

The committee appointed to report a charter submitted a plan of organization, which also provided for trustees to take and hold property on trust for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, and carrying on the library upon conditions to be determined by the Association.

The Committee on Ways and Means reported that they had selected the building at No. 9 East Main Street as the one where the library is to be established.

The report also stated that it would require \$3000 to run the library for the first year. It was recommended that a book reception be held as soon as possible on two consecutive evenings, and that each white person contributing a book should become a contributing member of the Association.

The report was adopted without any opposition.

The President was requested to appoint an auxiliary committee of ladies.

It was decided to move the Rosemary Library at once into the new quarters on Main Street.

*Rowley, Mass.* Efforts are being made to establish a public library in the town. The town in fact has already accepted the legislative act of 1890, which insures the donation of \$100 worth of books from the State annually. An association known as the Rowley Book Club has been in existence some 25 years, and has accumulated about 1000 volumes, comprising many valuable works. This library it is proposed to place in the hands of the trustees for the use of the citizens, which will certainly form a very respectable nucleus for a public library. Mr. Mighill has been

appointed town librarian, and for the present he will receive books at his home.

*Rutland (Vt.) F. L. A.* Added 749; total 6116; circulated 33,767. Mr. Reuben Ross, of New York, who was born within half a mile of Memorial Hall, has generously sent the library a check for \$500. This whole amount will be at once expended for sterling reference-books of permanent use and value.

*St. Louis (Mo.) Merc. Lib. Assoc.* Added 2854; issued 75,679; home use 102,951; lib. use 83,188 (fict. and juv. 70.2% of home use, 12% of lib. use). "Until the second mortgage bonds are paid off" (\$10,000 a year for 3 years) "a frugal management of your resources" is necessary. "We need at least \$5000 a year above our ordinary income to enable us to do justice to our members and satisfy the growing thirst for knowledge which we ourselves have created."

The directors are not disposed to engage in argument with the gentlemen who, through the columns of the *Republic*, have openly criticised the action of the board in supplanting St. Louis employees of the library with Boston men. Mr. Waterhouse explains that he does not care to enter into a controversy on the subject, adding: "I will say, however, that the policy of the directors has been governed solely by what, in their judgment, has seemed conducive to the best interests of the library, that no St. Louis employee has been unnecessarily replaced, and that no retrenchment beyond what is required by the financial condition of the Association has been made. The present librarian has had nothing to do with the changes effected since he went into office. The directors alone are responsible, and they are satisfied that their course will in time meet with the approval of St. Louis people."

*Salem (Mass.) P. L.* Added 5800; total 19,691; issued 141,237 (fiction 85%); Sunday use 2551 persons.

*San Francisco F. L.* At the last board meeting considerable discussion took place regarding the newspaper stands in the library. It was generally agreed that they take up much valuable space where they are, and it was finally decided to remove the newspapers to the corridor on the next floor above, and have it open to the public from 9 to 12 o'clock in the morning, and from 6 to 8 o'clock in the evening, and the Building Committee was authorized to make the necessary arrangements.

*Springfield, Mass.* The SPRINGFIELD City L. (Pages 149-152 of *Progressive Springfield*, March 1891; repr. in the *Springfield Library bulletin* for March.) With portraits of the librarian and trustees, and view of the building.

*Thompsonville, Ct.* "Mr. Root, of Haverhill, a native of this place, who has not been here for many years, has made a very natural mistake. During the week about 20 books were received here from him addressed to 'the town library,' and as no such institution exists the books are in the hands of the selectmen. Probably Mr. Root will be a trifle astonished to learn that in the latter part of the 19th century there still exists a town of the size of Thompsonville without such

a necessary adjunct of moderate civilization as a free library. A good way to set the matter right is to take steps to secure a library. About eight years ago a sort of revival took place in literature here, and the village fathers secured a library charter all ready for any one to take who would go ahead and supply the cash, and there were some faint offers of carrying out the plan. Somehow the scheme did not materialize, and several people who made their wills in favor of the library had had to change their minds and give to some more progressive enterprise. The town in this lack is behind the smaller places around it. Hazardville, Enfield Street and Suffield have all enjoyed the privilege, and Windsor Locks offers reading opportunities which at least surpass Thompsonville's. The high school pupils have the only chance at a decent library in the place, and it is rather hard for a graduate, when he has secured his education and presumably is in a position to follow it up by general reading, to be thrown out into the cold world, where he has to dispense with the luxury of a library. It certainly would be the best thing in the world for the young men who have proved energetic enough to help themselves, to be helped to the general education supplied by a good circulating library. Besides the institution might prove profitable to the older members of the community."

*Trenton, N. J. W. C. T. U. L.* The library has circulated 14,983 books and 19,271 persons have used the tables in the reading-room during the year. The receipts do not cover the running expenses, and the Union is dependent on contributions to renew the supply of books.

*Uxbridge (Mass.) F. P. L.* (16 rpt.) Added 305; total 5805.

"The report shows a falling off in the delivery of books for home reading, and an increase of visitors for reading and study in the reading-room. A considerable falling off in the number of volumes of fiction (441) given out for home reading, with an increase of the other classes."

The librarian calls the attention of readers to the list of American history, more than 200 volumes, that has been published in a separate list in the 5th supplement, which will attract the attention of those who would be well informed on subjects relating to their own country.

*Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L.* (23d rpt.) Added 653; total 19,565; issued 31,010; lib. use 4630.

"If we have all the advantages enjoyed by the largest and best equipped libraries, both printed catalogues, printed bulletins and a full card catalogue always during these more than twenty years kept up to date, you must not allow those people to go unanswered who compare the expense of your library with libraries in smaller or larger towns and cities where they have only one form of catalogue, or in some instances, as they do and will, with towns whose libraries have the briefest finding-lists and no proper catalogue at all. There are towns and cities also where the bulletins are printed without expense to the library. Yours may be so printed if you wish, if you will allow the alternate pages to be used for the paid advertisements of your own citizens. If the matter of expense is more important in the



minds of our people than the cultivation of the good taste and convenience of readers, you certainly will adopt the cheaper plan.

"To the end of 1890 there have been purchased 13,396 volumes, at a cost of \$19,445.14, or an average of \$1.45 per volume; while 4792 volumes have been given, and 1373 volumes have been obtained by binding pamphlets and periodicals, some of which had been purchased for the reading-room, some of which had been given to the library.

"The building has cost, with its improvements and fixtures, about \$45,000, making the present value of the whole establishment at least \$75,000. What it is really worth to the town depends entirely upon its use. If used by all, or even by half of the people, as it is used by a few, its real value to the town, counted in the years to come, would doubtless be capable of measurement in dollars and cents only by figures many times as large as these named; while in increased technical and business knowledge, in enlarged views of life, in better trained minds, in well-balanced characters, in greater satisfaction in living, its value can be estimated only by such as have learned to prize such things."

*Weymouth, Mass. Tufts L.* Added 862; total 13,163; issued 56,519 (26,521 through six agencies), (fiction and juv. 73 %). "About 30 of our teachers avail themselves of the 'special-card' privilege almost constantly, and at the request of some who have found the number formerly loaned on these cards too small for the demands of the work they wished to accomplish, the number of volumes which may be borrowed at one time on each of these cards has been increased to six."

*Woodstock (Ill.) P. L.* was formally dedicated March 24. The library will have room in the new City Hall, and will be under the charge of the city, assisted by the Woodstock Literary and Library Assoc., composed of 200 of the citizens of Woodstock. The library will be opened with about 1000 volumes, and more additions will be made as soon as possible, as the citizens will be asked to vote a tax at the next spring election to aid in advancing it. The library was started a dozen years ago by the Literary Society, and it was finally decided to turn it over to the city, the society still retaining an interest in the library and a share in its management.

#### FOREIGN NOTES.

*Cambridge Univ. L.* The library syndicate recommend that the annual grant from the chest towards the maintenance of the library be raised from £4000 to £5000. The estimated expenditure includes £2850 for salaries and wages; £1600 for purchase of books, and £650 for binding. — *Acad.*, Mar. 21.

*Hamilton (Can.) P. L.* (2d rpt.) Added 5751; total 14,577; issued 100,249 (fict. and juv. 62.43 %). The new library has a new and commodious building. "When asking for something in fiction it is invariably a 'good novel,' 'something worth reading,' that is called for. As a consequence, the works of the great novelists — Scott, Dickens, Thackeray and others — are in constant demand, and although liberally duplicated they are seldom on the shelves."

*Queensbury, Yorkshire, Eng.* New jubilee lecture-hall and reading-room and library view. (In *Illustrated London news*, Feb. 7. p. 186.)

*Winnipeg, Can. Manitoba Provincial L.* Added 1278; total 14,035; receipts \$3600; expenditures \$3526.84. The demand for office-room in other departments necessitated changes in the library that will prove anything but satisfactory, unless steps are taken to provide some permanent home for the institution. It is at present scattered all over the building, and is exceedingly inconvenient for purposes of reference. It is suggested that a suitable fireproof annex could be erected in rear of the present building in which to store the contents of the museum, collection of archives, public documents, rare and other volumes that have been collected in the past six years, and valued now at about \$30,000.

#### PRACTICAL NOTES.

*Improvement in card catalog drawer labels.* Our catalog case having grown so that there are 196 drawers occupied and that single letters fill from 5 to 17 drawers each, it becomes desirable to show quickly where each letter begins. I have done this by making the first label of a different color from the others (pink instead of tea color) and printing the first initial in twice as large type as the others (6-line pica instead of 3-line pica). C: A. CUTTER.

*Mr. W. A. Borden, librarian of the Young Men's Institute, New Haven,* has invented a desk file for newspapers. It is adjustable so that the reader can move his paper on the desk up or down nearly two feet at pleasure, so that stretching the neck to read the top of a column or bending down to read at the bottom of a column is uncalled for. The file is attached to the desk by means of springs through which screws pass. The springs pass through what might be called the backbone of the file, and by giving the screws in the springs a turn the hold on the file can be tightened or loosened at will. The file is provided with six or seven wands, according to the number of papers which are received in a week. When a new paper arrives the oldest paper — that to the extreme left — is removed and the new paper is put in at the right, so that the reader can begin from the left and by turning over to the left find in order all the papers for a week.

The new file is to be known as the Institute file, and has been adopted by the Institute Directors. Mr. Borden will place the manufacture and sale of the file in the hands of the Milton Bradley Company, of Springfield.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

The Bayonne (N. J.) P. L., built at the expense of a few liberal citizens, has been opened. The late Jerome Beecher left the Chicago P. L. \$2000. Andrew Ashton has given the Durand (Ill.) L. Assoc. \$100. The Marlboro (Mass.) P. L. has received \$500 from the estate of Levi Bigelow. The library in Merrill, Ill., founded by the bequest of \$10,000 from T. B. Scott, has been opened. Reuben Rose has given the Rutland F. L. A. \$500.



### Librarians.

TENNEY, Mrs. Harriet Augusta. In speaking of her recent retirement from the office of State Librarian of Michigan, *The State Republican* says:

"Mrs. Tenney was born April 1, 1834, at Essex, Vermont, being the daughter of John Leffingwell and Delia (Doud) Edgerton. She received an academic education at Franklin, Vermont, and March 29, 1854, was married to Jesse Eugene Tenney, of the same place, coming immediately with her husband to Homer, this State, where both were engaged in teaching until the fall of 1855.

"In April, 1859, Governor Moses Wisner, recognizing the adaptabilities of the man for the office, appointed Judge Tenney State Librarian. During the ten years her husband held the position Mrs. Tenney spent much of her time in the library, and in 1869 Governor H. P. Baldwin, realizing her fitness for the position, appointed her to the place so ably filled by Mr. Tenney. She was successively appointed by Governors Bagley, Croswell, Jerome, Begole, Alger and Luce. Mrs. Tenney had charge of removing the library twice, first in the fall of 1871 from the old capitol to the State Office Block, and again in 1878 to its present elegant and commodious rooms in the new capitol.

"With all her arduous duties necessarily connected with so important a position Mrs. Tenney has found time to mingle with the outside world, and is a member of and holds office in several societies in which she is a shining light and an earnest worker. She has been Recording Secretary of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society since its organization in 1874, is a member of the American Association of Librarians, is a corresponding member of the Chicago Historical Society, and a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science; was President of the Lansing Military Aid Society from 1861 to 1866, and President of the Lansing Woman's Soldiers' Monument Association. In December, 1887, she was unanimously elected President of Charles T. Foster Woman's Relief Corps, No. 7, holding the office until the present year. She was Department Counsellor of the Woman's Relief Corps, Department of Michigan, 1886-7; Department Treasurer, 1887-8; Department Aid, 1888-9; and for the years 1888 to 1890 was Worthy Matron of Arbutus Chapter, No. 45, Order of the Eastern Star, of Lansing.

"Mrs. Tenney was one of the organizers of the Lansing Library and Literary Association, and when the Public Library was established in the High School building the society presented to it its valuable library, and shortly after disbanded. Mr. Tenney was also one of the organizers of the Lansing Woman's Club, in 1874, and was its President for the three succeeding years."

### Cataloging and Classification.

BELLUZZI, R., and FIORINI, V. *Catalogo illustrativo dei libri, documenti, ed oggetti esposti dalle provincie dell' Emilia e delle Romagne*

*nel tempio del risorgimento italiano.* Vol. 1. Bologna, Zamorani-Albertazzi, 1891. 13+247 p. 8°.

INDIANAPOLIS P. L. Finding-list of poetry and the drama literature and polygraphy. Ind., 1891. 47 p. Q.

No imprints. The order is Poetry and drama: collections, individual authors, plays arranged by titles. Literature, classified by languages and in the case of English literature sub-classified by forms. The "Polygraphy" is merely the "collected works," "speeches and addresses," "collected miscellany," and "essays and miscellany" of English literature.

MAIMONIDES L., N. Y. Supplement to the Catalogue of German fiction and juveniles. N. Y., 1890. 34 p. O.

N. Y. STATE LIBRARY. Bulletin: Legislation no. 1, Feb. 1891: Comparative summary and index of state legislation in 1890. Albany, 1891. 84 p. O.

"A classified comparative summary of legislation with a subject index is made on cards by the legislative sub-librarian, Mr. W. B. Shaw, as fast as the session laws come into the State Library. This is necessary in order to enable him to answer promptly frequent inquiries as to legislation in other States. The references cover the laws of 16 States and 1 territory. The summary is classified under general heads; the index is an alphabetic list of all the specific topics contained in the Summary and refers to each entry by its marginal number."

The work is indispensable in State libraries and must be useful in all law libraries.

PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF EDUCATION. Supplement to the Catalogue of the Pedagogical Library and the books of reference in the office of the Superintendent of Public Schools, edited by James MacAlister. Philadelphia, 1890. 47 p. D.

PROVIDENCE, R. I. Co operative list of periodicals and serials currently received at the libraries and reading-rooms of. Providence, 1891. 16 p. D.

WELLINGTON (Province), N. Zealand. GENERAL ASSEMBLY. Annual supplement to the catalogue. Jan. 1891. Wellington, 1891. 2 L.+30+10+8 p. O.

### FULL NAMES.

Cahoone, S. Sayer (Sketches of Newport and its vicinity, 1842).

Torrey, Dolphus (Contribution toward a genealogy of all Torreys in America).

*The following are furnished by Harvard College Library.*

Arnold, James Newell (Vital record of Rhode Island);

Finley, J. Park (Storm track, fog, and ice charts of the north Atlantic ocean);

Orton, R. H. (Records of California men in the war of the rebellion, 1861-67);

- Welch, S: Manning, Sr. (Home history; recollections of Buffalo, 1830-40);  
 Lord, C: Chase (Life and times in Hopkinton, N. H.);  
 Rhawn, W: H: (An introduction to "A move for better roads," etc.);  
 Sampson, F: Asbury (A bibliography of the geology of Missouri).

### Bibliography.

- ASIBARRO Y RIVES, Martinez. Intento de un diccionario biog. y bibliog. de los autores de la provincia de Burgos, Madrid, Murillo, 1891. 570 p. 8".
- BRUNET, G. Etudes sur la reliure des livres et sur les collections de bibliophiles célèbres. Paris, Vve Moquet, 1891. 8", 10 fr.
- GARCIA PERES, Dom. Catalogo razonado biográfico y bibliográfico de los autores portugueses que escribieron en castellano. Madrid, Murillo, 1891. 14+664 p. gr. 8". 10 pes.
- FOSTER, W: E., has prepared in connection with the "Old South Lectures" on American history, 6 capital broadsheets of "reference for parallel readings" on the subjects of the lecture. They cover the "Pre-Columbian voyages to America;" the "Women of the Revolution;" "La Salle and the French in the Great West;" "How Rhode Island helped in the Revolutionary Movement," and "James Madison and his Journal."
- GROENEWEGEN, J. H. Bibliographie der werken van Everhardus Johannes Potgieter. Haarlem, H. D. Tjeenk Willink, 1891. 14+194 p. 8". 1.90 fl., bd. 2.40 fl.
- TILLINGHAST, W: Hopkins. 7th list of the publications of Harvard University and its officers, 1889-90. Camb., 1891. 32 p. O. (Bibliog. contrib., 41.)
- ZEITLIN, William. Bibliotheca hebraica post-Mendelssohniana; Bibliographisches Handbuch der neuhebr. Literatur seit Beginn der Mendelssohn'schen Epoche bis zum J. 1890; nach alphabet. Reihenfolge der Autoren m. biograph. Daten u. bibliograph. Notizen nebst Indices der hebr. Büchertitel u. der citirten Autorennamen. 1. Hälfte. A—M. 2., neu bearb. u. erweit. Aufl. Lpz., K. F. Koehler's Antiq., 1891. 4+248 p. 8". 7.50 m.
- INDEXES.
- BOITON, J. Table général des matières contenues dans le JOURNAL des géomètres depuis sa création (1847) jusqu'à fin 1889. Grenoble, imp. Dupont. 1891. 8+176 p. 8".
- SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS. Transactions for 1889 and general index, 1861-89. London, Spon, 1891. 8", 15 sh.

### Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

- PETTERSEN, Hj. Anonymer og pseudonymer i den norske literatur, 1678-1890. Bibliografiske meddelelser. Kristiania, H. G. Nisja, 1890. 127 p. gr. 8".

*So runs the world away, Ansley May*, (New York, Dillingham, March, 1891). Ansley May, nom de plume of Edith May Dickinson and Edward Ansley Stokes, both of Trenton, N. J.

MARTHA F. NELSON.

Frank Linstow White, pseud. of Frank Weitenkampf, Astor Library, N. Y., translator of Jane Dieulafoy's "At Susa" (Phila., 1890); Bleunard's "Babylon electrified" (Phila., 1889); edr. of 3d ed. of L. P. Phillips' "Dictionary of biographical reference" (Phila., 1889); author of numerous articles on art and other topics in the *Epoch*, *Musical Visitor*, *Cosmopolitan*, etc.

Gilbert des Roches, ps. of Mme. la baronne Legoux, a musical composer, who has lately died.—*Polybiblion*.

Stanton Page, ps. of H. B. Fuller, in 1st ed. "The Chevalier of Pensieri-Vani," Boston, 1890; the 2d ed. bears the real name.

### Gamers and Blunders.

From an English bookseller's catalog.

BOWDLER.—Family Shakespeare in one volume, in which nothing is added to the original text but those words and expressions which cannot, with propriety, be read aloud in a family.

The words "are omitted," which in the title of the work follow "expressions," are left out, producing a result which ought to make good Thomas Bowdler shiver in his grave.—*Birmingham weekly post*, Jan. 29.

"MICHAEL PADDEN, it is said, will be appointed Assistant Librarian to the Board of Aldermen. Paddy Walsh of the Fourth Ward said Padden was slated for Sergeant-at-Arms, but he was not sufficiently educated for this position, so they propose to make him Assistant Librarian."—*N. Y. Sun*, Jan. 3, 1891.

*New Haven*. A book just asked for: "Crowded in a cornfield." BORDEN.

BOOKS are sometimes called for by titles that are amusing and perplexing. Some of our younger readers have asked for "Wee Women," "Robinson crucified," "Hunters of Noah's Ark," "John Bone's Island," "Subscriber's Magazine," "Mrs. Atkinson's Little Men," "Swink or Sim," "St. Peter's Magazine," and "Elsie's Babies."

We filled the orders by handing out "Little Women," "Robinson Crusoe," "Hunters of the Ozark," "John Bull's Island," "Scribner's Magazine," "Miss Alcott's Little Men," "Sink or Swim," "Peterson's Magazine," and "Elsie's Children." NEWBURGH FREE LIBRARY.

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"Delightfully written by Mr. Gribayédoff, who has devoted so much time and labor to the rounding out of his narrative that it calls for careful reading."—*Press* (Philadelphia).

"An interesting monograph."—*Life* (N. Y.). "An unique and very interesting volume."—*Texas Siftings* (N. Y.). "An eminently readable and useful book that should find a place in every library making any pretensions to completeness regarding British history. The illustrations are admirable."—*The Nation*.

"The style of this book is so pure, strong and idiomatic, that one marvels how a writer born and educated in a foreign country could have produced it. The spirit, color and vivacity of the narrative are Mr. Gribayédoff's own. The volume is so tersely and compactly done, that nothing could be added to it; and no one who cares for a thoroughly enjoyable reading on a captivating and unbackneyed subject will neglect to possess himself of it."—*JULIAN HAWTHORNE, in Lippincott's Magazine*.

"The author has not merely presented us with a picturesque narrative, but has embodied in it considerable matter which has laid buried among the dusty manuscript archives of the British Museum and the Bibliothèque de France. Mr. Gribayédoff's accession to the ranks of authorship is a matter of congratulation."—*Recorder* (N. Y.).

"An interesting and scholarly account of an almost unknown episode."—*Book Chat*. "An instructive book. Pains and care and labor have gone to the making of it, and the result is a series of pictures distinct in themselves and not to be had elsewhere collectively. The illustrations are superior in execution."—*Evening Sun* (N. Y.).

"None can refuse the author the credit of having turned out an interesting, and at times dramatic work."—*World* (N. Y.).

"Bound to attract attention. Throws an entirely new light on one of the most stirring episodes of Irish history."—*Evening World* (N. Y.).

"Based upon historical documents and some books now very rare, and it contains a number of spirited illustrations."—*Herald* (N. Y.).

"The book is a valuable contribution to Irish history."—*Evening Telegram* (N. Y.). "History receives a valuable addition to its archives in this publication. Link by link, the author has forged a chain of evidence which is not only convincing in its argument, but is put together in such a manner that it is as valuable to the bibliophile as it is to the lover of Irish history and the enthusiast in the matter of Irish liberty."—*Topic* (N. Y.).

"An admirably written book, which sheds the light of history upon an achievement that has been, purposely and with malice aforethought, clouded by British writers. . . . An excellent and fearless book. . . ."—*Truth* (N. Y.).

"Written by V. Gribayédoff, the pioneer in newspaper illustration. . . . Exceedingly well told. . . . Unusually well gotten up and illustrated."—*Publishers' Weekly* (N. Y.).

"Nearly all who have written on this or any other episode of the Irish Rebellion of 1798, have been moved more by partisanship than by single-minded desire to set forth the truth. . . . The present writer has evidently sought to give his readers a true statement of the French invasion."—*Tribune* (N. Y.).

"This description, taken from the unpublished papers and secondite sources, is one of the most vivid in military narrative."—*Freeman's Journal* (Dublin).

### LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

By V. Gribayédoff: Portraits of Marquis of Cornwallis, Gen. Sarrazin, and Gen. Hutchinson.

By Harry Ogden: Castlebar (frontispiece).

By Edw. Siebert: Arrival of the French vessels; Sarrazin embraces a patriot's corpse; Retreat of the French; The Battle of Killybegs.

By W. C. Filler: The March to Castlebar.

By Baron C. de Grimm: Lake's Flight from Castlebar.

By Thomas M. Hevane: The Ball after the Battle.

By Comerford: Portrait of Col. Charles Vereker.

By Charles Graham: The Gory Heights of Ballinamuck.

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Mercantile Library Association, N. Y.  
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